

Scrooge comes to the Depot Theatre  
**See page 7**

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Southbound Metro-North trains did not have special alerters at the time of the Dec. 2013 accident. They were only installed in locomotives.  
*Photo by K.E. Foley*

# Metro-North Talks Up Safety a Year after Crash

*Positive train control still in distance*

By Kevin E. Foley

This past week was the anniversary (Dec. 1) of when residents of Philipstown and other towns along the Metro-North Hudson train line had to mourn the deaths of four fellow citizens. The victims, including Jim Lovell of North Highlands, were passengers on an early Sunday morning train bound for Grand Central Terminal. Lovell was headed for work on a job for the NBC television network. He left behind his wife Nancy Montgomery and three sons. The long line of mourners along Parrott Street waiting for hours to pay their respects and the standing-room-only funeral in Our Lady of Loretto Church still haunt the collective memory.

An investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) determined that the train hit a sharp curve at an excessive speed near the Spuyten Duyvil station, just north of Manhattan, and ran off the tracks. The train's engineer admitted to suffering from sleep apnea and said he temporarily lost consciousness

and therefore failed to slow the train. In the immediate aftermath of the December derailment, *The New York Times* reported that an alerter system that signals danger when an engineer has not slowed was already installed on all Metro-North locomotives, but not in the passengers cars. Since locomotives usually pull and control the trains only on the northbound runs, the trains heading south, such as the fateful Dec. 1 train, didn't have alerters. While it is not established that an alerter would have prevented the accident, the failure to install them for half of the train runs underscored the failed safety culture that regulators attacked. Metro-North has said all trains will have alerters by year-end.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the national railroad regulator, criticized Metro-North for a poor safety culture and ordered it to make more than two dozen safety reforms. The FRA also pointed out that it had long urged that railroads, including Metro-North, introduce positive train controls systems, which, it is generally agreed, would have prevented the derailment by stopping the train when the engineer failed to correct the train's speed.

(Continued on page 4)

# Messiah Concert to Go On, with Empty Podium Tribute to Stewart



Vocalists perform in 2013's presentation of *Messiah*  
*Photos by Ross Corsair*

*'It all starts from inside, just as it did with the man who wrote it, and what you feel and understand inside determines how your heart beats.'* ~ Gordon Stewart

By Alison Rooney

Any one of the approximately 600 people who attended last December's performances of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* at Cold Spring's St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Episcopal Church could have attested to the very special alchemy of those two productions, in which a contingent of New York's finest *Messiah*-seasoned musicians were joined with a chorus partially drawn from local singers, and led by conductor Gordon Stewart in bringing the famous oratorio to an extended, and awe-struck, swath of the community.

In response to multiple requests — from those who attended and from the musicians and singers who played and sang — *Messiah*, with most of the same personnel, will return to St. Mary's for two more performances, at 2 and 5 p.m.

on Dec. 21. Stewart, who founded *Philipstown.info* and *The Paper*, died on Nov. 26. Hopeful of conducting again, yet aware that his illness might prevent this, Stewart arranged for the performances to be given regardless of his ability to be there, and specified that he wished for "an empty podium" to represent him, should he be absent. His request will be honored, and the performances are now dedicated to his memory. A reception with refreshments will take place in St. Mary's Parish Hall in between performances. Garrison's Rachel Evans, who assembled the musicians, will again serve as concert master, leading 21 musicians, four soloist singers and a chorus of nearly two dozen through Handel's baroque composition, long a staple of the December holiday season. As they did last year, proceeds from (Continued on page 6)



Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell, County Clerk-Elect Michael Bartolotti, center, and Assemblyman Steve Katz listen to a comment from an audience member.  
*Photo by L.S. Armstrong*

# Putnam Leaders, Firearm Owners, Continue Fight Against Gun Laws and Disclosure

*Attacking SAFE Act by defunding it proposed at state level*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Putnam County's top leaders joined firearms owners Wednesday night (Dec. 3) at an energized forum-cum-rally in Carmel to attack various gun restrictions, advocate gun rights and oppose disclosure of information on gun ownership.

A strategy for thwarting New York state's sweeping 2013 gun-control law, the Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement or SAFE Act, also emerged: in the New York State Legislature, abolish funding for implementing it.

County Executive MaryEllen Odell, Sheriff Donald Smith, District Attorney Adam Levy and County Clerk-Elect Michael Bartolotti, now deputy clerk, all took to the podium at a workshop meeting organized by the Putnam County Firearm Owners Association. Described as a training session on state laws, the event drew over 150 participants to the Paladin Center, a private training facility for police, corporations and private clients.

"This is what you call a packed house," one attendee observed to another as the hall filled, though whether he referred to the crowd or any weapons it carried was unclear.

The evening featured frequent denunciations of the SAFE Act and invocations of the Second Amendment.

(Continued on page 4)



Small, Good Things

An American Native

By Joe Dizney

Things are not always what they seem, and usually they're more than what's readily apparent.

Take Indian pudding, a truly native (lowercase n) American dessert and “Indian” (or capital N, Native American) only in that it is made from a New World staple — corn — instead of wheat or some other Old World grain.

It's also known as Hasty Pudding (despite the fact that it is cooked “low and slow,” i.e., at a low temperature for a *lo-o-o-o-ng* time, up to five or six hours in some traditional recipes), and its nearest culinary progenitors are British steamed puddings — sweetened milk and grain porridges — that achieve a smooth pudding-like consistency only through long, slow cooking.

The molasses that is Indian pudding's distinctive sweetener and base note (rather than the more expected maple syrup) also comes to us by a curiously circuitous route, *returning* to the New World pantry as a result of the so-called “triangle trade” in which sugar from the American South and Caribbean was shipped north or to England for processing into rum (barter for the slave trade). The molasses, a byproduct of the distilling process, was shipped back to the colonies, becoming a much-used culinary sweetener (primarily in baking, but try to imagine Boston baked beans without it).

Like its British cousin, Christmas pudding, Indian pudding is traditionally seasoned with ginger, nutmeg and cinnamon. Admittedly, the resulting brown mess is not much on visual appeal and

can be a hard sell to unadventurous souls unaccustomed to its charms, but its allure lies somewhere near its *savory* Italian relative, polenta, in that it is true *comfort* food.

And even I will cop to a shocked “My-God-what-have-I-done?” hesitancy when first removing this questionable brown mush from the oven. When topped with a generous spoonful of freshly whipped cream, or better still some good vanilla ice cream, Indian pudding is a dessert that holds its own against even the most sophisticated festive spread.

On a cold winter night, a warm oven loaded with this exotically spiced mixture fills the house with a fragrance that virtually sings Yule carols on its own. (Nov. 13, National Indian Pudding Day, might seriously be considered as the true opening salvo of the holiday season.)

For the version presented here, I've used both a higher proportion of maple syrup to amplify the strictly New England character of the dish and a touch of vanilla to soften the edges of the comparatively “rough” blackstrap molasses. Preliminary cooking on the stovetop and the inclusion of beaten eggs helps to achieve



Indian pudding with cranberry-walnut sauce

Photo by J. Dizney

a smooth, more custard-like consistency. A simple cranberry sauce provides a tart brightness and some additional holiday color. You might consider stir-

ring a cup or so of dried cranberries, raisins, currants or other dried fruit into the pudding after two hours or so into its time in the oven for additional interest; any sooner and they pretty much melt into the mix. Toasted walnuts add a little toothsome crunch.

Indian Pudding With Cranberry-Walnut Sauce

Serves 6-8

For the pudding:

- 3 cups milk
- ¾ cup maple syrup
- ¼ cup blackstrap molasses
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons butter
- ¾ cup cornmeal
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 to 2 eggs, beaten

For the sauce:

- ¾ cup dried cranberries
- ½ cup orange juice
- ¼ cup raw sugar
- ¼ teaspoon orange zest
- ½ cup toasted, roughly chopped walnuts
- Vanilla ice cream or whipped cream for serving

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees. In the oven, warm 1 to 1 ½ inches of water in a shallow roasting pan large enough to accommodate a 6-cup casserole or soufflé dish. Butter the casserole/soufflé dish and set aside.
2. Mix dry ingredients and reserve. Warm milk, syrup, molasses, vanilla and butter in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat. When warm, increase heat slightly and begin to whisk in the dry ingredients until completely incorporated and lump free. Cook, stirring regularly over a low simmer (as for polenta) for 10 minutes or so.
3. Remove from heat and slowly whisk in the beaten egg. Pour mixture into buttered casserole and set it into the warm water bath in the oven. Cover lightly with foil and cook for at least three hours, checking occasionally to see that it doesn't get too dry.
4. While pudding cooks, prepare the sauce: Combine cranberries, orange juice, sugar and zest in a small saucepan over low heat. Cook for 15 minutes until sugar is dissolved and cranberries begin to soften. When slightly thickened, remove from heat and cool. Stir in about half of the walnuts.
5. Once pudding is done, remove from oven and cool slightly. To serve, allow one large scoop of pudding per person. Top with one or two small scoops of ice cream or a dollop of whipped cream, finished with a generous tablespoon or so of the cranberry sauce and an additional sprinkling of walnuts.

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# Dramatic Rescue on Bull Hill

*Specially trained team comes to aid of local teen*

By Michael Turton

Many of the hikers who get lost, injured or stranded on Philipstown’s numerous rugged trails share a very similar backstory. Most are not from the area, are far from their comfortable, urban surroundings and are not very familiar with the western Putnam County landscape. Often, when they do get in trouble, they hesitate to call for help.



The steep cliff where Graff was stranded  
Photo courtesy of Dorothy Carlton

That was not Julian Graff’s story, though he did find himself in a very precarious situation, high on Bull Hill, above Cold Spring, on the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 30. Graff, the 16-year-old son of Dorothy Carlton and Pascal Graff, owner of Le Bouchon Restaurant, has lived in Cold Spring since he was 5. A member of the Haldane football team, he’s in good shape, hikes on a regular basis, and is comfortable navigating local trails. But he was not immune to making several mistakes — errors in judgment that could have cost him dearly.

### Going to the edge

Just before noon on Sunday, Graff headed out for what he initially thought would just be a walk. But he changed his mind, opting instead for a more rigorous hike up to Bull Hill — also known as Mount Taurus — via the Washburn Trail, a popular path that begins opposite Little Stony Point Park on the northern edge of the village.

Mistake No. 1: He altered his plan without being fully prepared — and told no one.

“I’ve been up there before and I wanted to see the quarry from the other side. I know the trail pretty well,” Graff said.

Mistake No. 2: He hiked, alone, to a location that, while close to the village, is isolated and not without its natural hazards.

Graff’s problem started almost as soon as he got to the old quarry site. “I went to the edge of the cliff at the top,” he told *The Paper*. “I was looking down. As soon

as I turned [away from the edge] my right foot slipped ... and I slid right down.”

Mistake No. 3: He was unaware of or ignored local conditions — the ground was wet and slippery after a snowfall.

As Graff began to slip down the cliff, he reacted instinctively, desperately grabbing for anything to hold onto. “I tried to grab the top of the cliff but couldn’t; it was too slippery,” he said. “I grabbed a branch about 3 feet down — but it broke. I was able to grab a second branch.” His feet finally took hold and he came to a stop. Graff found himself on “a small ledge, a perch, that was kind of angled,” he recalled. “There was a lot of runoff and it was very slippery.”

### Cold, wet and stranded

Graff’s fall had left him about 20 feet below the edge of the cliff and he knew right away that he was stranded. “There was no getting up that cliff,” he said. Nor could he climb down. He estimated it was an 80-foot drop to the safe ground below.

And conditions were not pretty. Runoff flowed down to the ledge in a steady stream — extremely cold runoff from melting snow. “I was really cold and I had banged up my knee a bit,” Graff said. His feet were especially wet and cold. “I should have had proper footwear.” There was still snow on the trails and Graff said his boots were not suitable for those conditions.

Mistake No. 4: He wore inadequate clothing.

It was about 12:30 p.m. Graff had his cellphone and chose to immediately call his mother. “It was quicker than 911,” he said, explaining that he and his mother had taken the same hike together in the past and that she would know exactly where he was. He also knew that his cellphone battery would soon be dead.

Mistake No. 5: His cellphone was not fully charged.

### A mother’s premonition

Carlton said that she had a premonition that something was not right, even before Julian took his fall. “I said a prayer and texted him. He texted back and said everything was fine.” Just minutes later, her phone rang. It was her son. “Mom, I’m in a lot of trouble. I’m stuck,” he said. “Call for help right away — I can’t get out of the position I’m in.”

Graff was holding on, clinging to the narrow, rocky and very slippery ledge.

“I knew he was in a lot of trouble. It’s not like him to exaggerate,” Carlton said. She called the Cold Spring Police Department, got in her car, and headed to where her son was stranded.

Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1 (CSFC) was contacted and a rescue team sent out. Chief Josh DiNardo told *The Paper* that he also immediately contacted Orange County officials, whose Technical

Rescue Team is specially trained in rope rescues. The team includes personnel from several fire departments in Orange County, including West Point and departments from as far away as Port Jervis.

Vini Tankasali, Orange County fire coordinator, quickly dispatched 20 members of the Technical Rescue Team to Bull Hill. The North Highlands Fire Department was also on the scene in mutual aid to CSFC. Carlton said there were so many rescuers that “it was like something out of a movie.”

Rescuers were able to get a “ping” from Graff’s cellphone, narrowing his location, but they worried his phone would die at any time, Carlton said. “I was panicked; I really thought what would happen was that he would slip off that spot — and there was no place for him to land safely,” she remembered thinking. “They couldn’t get there fast enough.”

Graff said he was surprised how quickly his rescuers were able to make the steep, half-mile hike up to him, carrying a variety of equipment including some 100 pounds of rope.

### Special teams do their job

The CSFC team got to the top of the cliff first and lowered a rope to Graff, securing him until the Orange County team could arrive. When the Technical Rescue Team got there, one of its members rapelled down to Graff and quickly fastened him into a harness. “The guy who came down to me was totally professional,” Graff remembered. “We had



Julian Graff and his mom, Dorothy Carlton  
Photo by M. Turton

to rappel down” the cliff face together in order to get to safe ground.

As it turned out, Graff had been stuck at what DiNardo later described as “exactly the same spot” that another hiker was stranded in June 2011. During that incident, a CSFC rescue team successfully pulled the hiker up the cliff rather than lowering him down it.

A very long four hours after he had become stranded, Graff was finally back on solid ground, uninjured but very cold and wet. His rescuers immediately gave him water, blankets and a dry jacket.

### Tough lesson learned

Carlton was impressed with how her son’s rescuers handled the situation. “They did everything exactly the way it should be done. They used caution, thought it out and then used a special harness to get him out,” Carlton said. “I was very thankful.”

Toward the end of their interview with *The Paper*, Carlton turned to her son and said, “I hope you learned a lesson. That was reckless.”

“I know. I got it,” was Graff’s response. The look on his face said that he meant it.

## Cold Spring Fire Company Resolution

At a regular meeting of The Cold Spring Fire Company, No. 1 held on December 2nd, 2014, the following resolutions were adopted by unanimous vote.

Whereas, God in His wisdom saw fit to remove from our companionship, Gordon Stewart, 3 year member, who departed this life on November 26rd, 2014.

Whereas Mr. Stewart was an ardent supporter of the Cold Spring Fire Company, No. 1, always displaying a keen interest in its affairs and activities; therefore be it resolved that we, the members of the Cold Spring Fire Company, No. 1, extend to Mr. Stewart’s family our sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained; and be it further resolved that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and published in the local newspaper and a copy sent to Mr. Stewart’s family.

John Landolfi, President

Joshua DiNardo, Chief



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Thefts From Parked Vehicles Reported in Putnam County

Putnam County Sheriff Donald B. Smith reports that investigators from his agency, and the N.Y. State Police are investigating a series of larcenies from parked motor vehicles in Putnam Valley and elsewhere.

The Putnam Valley incident resulted in the recovery of GPS systems, credit cards, cellular telephones, laptop computers and other items.

Investigator Thomas Corless of the Sheriff's Bureau of Criminal Investigation noted that those responsible are apparently targeting unlocked parked motor vehicles. A variety of items have been reported stolen. In one case thieves stole several pairs of pajamas, which were purchased at local department stores. These pajamas were collected to be donated to "1 Million Good Nights Pajama Program," a nationwide charity that provides pajamas to needy children.

Police are asking for the public's help in identifying recovered property. Anyone who has been victimized is asked to call the state police or the Putnam County Sheriff's Office. Investigator Corless may be reached by calling 845-225-8060. All calls will be kept confidential.

Metro-North Talks Up Safety

(from page 1)

In 2008, in reaction to a California freight train crash that killed 25 people, Congress passed a law mandating installation of positive train control (PTC) systems for commuter and freight railroads by the end of 2015. However Congress did not fund the mandate, making strict enforcement impossible and requests for extensions of the deadline frequent.

Sen. Charles Schumer and Rep. Sean Maloney led a chorus of congressional criticism over the tragic deaths and dozens of injuries and the findings of serious safety deficiencies at the commuter line. Maloney, a member of the House Transportation Committee, has proposed legislation that would, among other things, provide financing for train systems to install positive train controls.

"One year after a Metro-North derailment took the lives of our friends and neighbors, there is still much we need to do to prevent this kind of tragedy from happening again. While our community pauses to honor the victims and their family and friends, I will continue doing everything I can to push for strategic investments that ensure the safety of our neighbors who rely on Metro-North, including implementing positive train control on commuter rails — it's the single most important thing we can do to stop these accidents and save lives," said Maloney in a statement this week.

Comment was far more muted on the state level with elected officials, including Gov. Andrew Cuomo, more or less willing to allow the board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), the parent organization of Metro-North, to take the heat and do what was needed in response. The issue of train safety on commuter rail lines did not play a significant role in the gubernatorial or legislative re-election races.

**Rapid response**

Metro-North made several major changes in response to the derailment and the onslaught of criticism. The rail line's president, Howard Permut, resigned and was replaced by Joseph Giulietti, a railroad professional, who quickly made a public commitment to initiate the reforms the FRA ordered. By May 2014 he said Metro-North was in compliance with 21 of 27 reforms.

In response to the poor safety culture criticism, the MTA board had to tellingly resurrect its former safety committee to re-emphasize board-level safety review. Few MTA board members, all gubernatorial appointees, have backgrounds in rail systems let alone safety engineering.

Metro-North did create the new executive position of chief safety officer, which can add to the importance of safety in decision making as system managers will likely be reluctant to create a record of ignoring or resisting recommendations or orders from such an individual. Still, the depth of the criticism Metro-North has sustained begs the question whether more needs to be done to offer riders greater certainty that safety is a constant and meaningful consideration.

"Metro-North is actively installing PTC and has accelerated delivery dates to expedite its activation. We have already spent about \$30 million for preliminary design. We also have a \$217 million contract for a system integrator to design, integrate and furnish a PTC system for wayside, onboard, office and communications equipment for east of Hudson ... In all, Metro-North expects to spend \$524 million to install PTC system-wide," wrote Majorie Anders, a

Metro-North spokesperson.

Anders' email sought to correct a misimpression this reporter had given in a previous article suggesting Metro-North was not actively pursuing PTC. Anders, by deadline for *The Paper*, had not replied to the question as to when Metro-North expected to actually have PTC installed. Previously published reports have varied as to when, but it appears unlikely the 2015 congressional deadline will be met.

System safer?

"Yes, it is safer. Is it as safe as it should or could be? No, it is not. Is it making progress at a rate it should be making? That's a question mark," said Christopher Wasiutynski, a Cold Spring resident with staff-level experience in transit issues in the New York State Assembly and the New York City Department of Transportation. His work involved interaction with the MTA. In retirement he still regularly reads railroad journals.

Wasiutynski told *The Paper* he thought the MTA and by extension Metro-North had long had a defensive attitude about criticism and often reverted to a you-have-to-understand-we-are-a-complicated-system response. He pointed out that in the aftermath of the accident, even though PTC was in the planning stages, MTA spokespeople were questioning the effectiveness of PTC systems, describing it as untested. Even Gov. Cuomo expressed skepticism at the time. Yet, said Wasiutynski, Amtrak, which has many more miles of track nationally, had been using PTC for years, as have various European railroads. From Wasiutynski's perspective, Europe, which has coordinated and standardized safety planning through the European Union, and China are further ahead in the deployment of safety technology.

Putnam Leaders, Firearm Owners, Continue Fight Against Gun Laws

(from page 1)

Passed in the wake of the gun massacres of schoolchildren in Connecticut and firefighters in upstate New York, the SAFE Act banned new semi-automatic assault rifles, handguns and shotguns; demanded registration of assault guns already owned; decreased the allowable size of high-capacity ammunition magazines; and imposed other restrictions. Opponents brought legal challenges, which continue.

Levy signaled that enforcing the SAFE Act remains a low priority for his office, Bartolotti called the law "a disservice to every citizen," and Smith denounced it as "one of the worst pieces of legislation ever passed in New York state." Odell and Bartolotti pledged continued defense in court of Putnam's refusal to disclose handgun ownership information in the public record, sought by *The Journal News* newspaper. The newspaper sued and the county lost in court though the appeal process continues.

Levy said the SAFE Act barred law-abiding citizens from owning certain guns and ammunition, which meant law enforcement officers "were automatically turned into criminals." As a district attorney, he said he took an oath to uphold the law. "I'll do that," if a court decision favors the SAFE Act but will proceed with the discretion allowed him, he said. "We have to prioritize in the office," Levy observed. "I'm not going to say I'm not going to follow the law." However, "it's the way we allocate resources to do that" which counts.

State Assemblyman Steve Katz, whose district includes much of Putnam County though not Philipstown, warned that "the SAFE Act is there. The idea of repealing it is not realistic." Yet, he said, it can be defunded and rendered powerless. "This is the piece we can get them at," he said of the law and its supporters. "And that's what we will do this time," in the next state budget.

Odell outlined the county's efforts to prevent disclosure of gun-owner data and said that with the newspaper demand "we were being challenged on our basic rights and freedoms." She referred to individual gun-owners, including a retired policeman and a woman victimized by a stalker, who face potential harm from disclosure of information, and described the fight as one of protecting safety and privacy. "We were standing on the side



Putnam County District Attorney Adam Levy

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

of right," she said. "It's about acting responsibly when newspapers act irresponsibly. That's our position."

Bartolotti said the clerk's office "will keep fighting in the trenches" and questioned why the news media "would want to put everybody in harm's way." He argued that public officials can shield citizens from likely risks and said, "I do believe we are on the side of right."

Smith, like others, emphasized Putnam's ranking as the safest county in the state, a status he attributed in part to the citizens. "Putnam is one of the most well-armed counties in America today," he said. He faulted the SAFE Act as "unworkable for the police" and told the audience that "if you look at places where these laws have been applied, you look at high-crime areas," such as Chicago and Washington, D.C.

"People will tell you that you can't have a safe county and have a Second Amendment" to the U.S. Constitution, Smith said, urging his listeners to "keep these [Constitutional] principles alive." The Constitution "puts a lot of responsibility on 'we the people,'" he said. "We the people have got to be heard."

The Constitution opens with the phrase, "We the people of the United States" and its Second Amendment similarly uses the plural term "the people." Odd punctuation and all, in its entirety the Second Amendment states: "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."



# Handcrafted Objects for the Home at WORK: SHOP

*Charles Burleigh's Ornamentum  
artisans among locals on hand in  
curated pop-up sale*

**By Alison Rooney**

**I**n a return visit, Beacon's Wickham Solid Wood Studio will reinvent itself for just one weekend, Dec. 6 and 7, as the host of WORK: SHOP, an admission-free holiday pop-up salon sale of curated, handcrafted, contemporary objects for the home. Most of the work is made by artisans from the Hudson Valley — including quite a few from Cold Spring, Garrison and Beacon along with others based in New York City. A café, run by Beacon's Five Hens Baked Goods, will allow shoppers to fortify themselves with Tas Café coffee as well as hot chocolate, sweet and savory pies, scones, cinnamon rolls and other goodies.

Furniture maker Jessica Wickham, subject of a Jan. 19 *Philipstown.info/The Paper* story, thought up the concept after she exhibited her work in a furniture fair. Looking around at the large space — a former hat factory, one of many for which Beacon was once well known — that houses her studio, she saw the possibilities within for just what is happening now; a successful first year encouraged this second go-round.

Wickham wrote: “In addition to being able to assemble an amazing group of artisans, what a treat for people to be able to experience our working studio surrounded by industrial machinery and raw materials — an atmosphere of authenticity, ingenuity and fine craft. We are looking forward to a festive, inspiring event!”

There will be 12 vendors at the sale in addition to Wickham, who will be selling her black walnut charcuterie boards, made with self-sourced and milled local hardwoods. Among them is Garrison's Charles (aka Chuck) Burleigh, who, under the banner of his company name, Ornamentum, will be curating what is essentially a sub-grouping of artisans from the Hudson Valley, all of whom make accessories for the home.

*'I really love craft work. These artists are a very diverse group, and all of them, reflect a particular bent of my design aesthetic.'*

“What I love about these artisans,” Burleigh said, “is that their work is very ‘of the hand’, idiosyncratic and reflective of their personalities — not necessarily groundbreaking, but rather really interesting ways of thinking about things.”

Burleigh, an interior designer of over 30 years' standing, said he is now wary of using the word "craft" because of the connotations it has developed, but nevertheless, "I really love craft work. These artists are a very diverse group, and all of them reflect a particular bent of my design aesthetic."

Ornamentum will be showing decorative pillows by Tourmaline Home, designed by Karin Reiter in Beacon and produced by her husband's family in India; desk accessories by Tracy Strong; stationery and other printed materials from Nic Taylor and Jennifer Brandt-Taylor at Thunderwing Studio; paper houses and teapots with

teacups that hold votive lights from Cecile Lindstedt; functional and decorative ceramics by Polly Myhrum; and, in a mix of architecture and decoration, castles fashioned entirely from cut-up wine and champagne bottle corks (some of the finials on the towers are acorns) by Marian McEvoy, a former editor of *Elle Décor*.

"I've been an interior designer my whole life," Burleigh said. "At eight I was rearranging the bedroom furniture all the time." He studied at Parsons School

Right, one of the desk accessories collection by Tracy Strong; below, left, castle made from cork bottle stoppers by Marian McEvoy; below, right, collection of pillows by Tourmaline Home

*Images courtesy of Ornamentum*



*The other vendors, all of whom will be on hand to meet customers, are:*

- Beacon Knits – one-of-a-kind wool hats
- Beth Bolga – functional pots, made in Brooklyn
- Kit Burke-Smith (Beacon) – jewelry
- Jenny Lee Fowler – fine paper cuttings
- Ten Willow (Beacon) – *malfatti* glassware
- Suguru (Garrison) – printed silk scarves
- Lauren Sandler – contemporary ceramics
- Platform – turned wood bowls and felted beach stones
- 21 Bridge Design – custom design and fabrication
- Herbaceutikals – small-batch, wild-crafted home and health products
- Fruition chocolate – bean to bar chocolatiers
- Fox & Castle (Cold Spring) – handcrafted jewelry and textiles

WORK: SHOP, which is sponsored by Manitoqua/The Russel Wright Design Center, Hudson Woods, *The Valley Table*, The Hop and The Roundhouse, will be open on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Wickham Woodworking, 578 Main St., Beacon. Admission is free and visitors will automatically be entered into a raffle for one of 12 items made by vendors for the sale. For more information, and images of work by all the vendors, visit [workshop.virb.com](http://workshop.virb.com).

## NOTICE

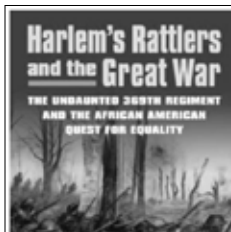
All bills outstanding against the Town of Philipstown, Putnam County, New York, must be submitted for payment by 1 p.m. on Monday, December 29, 2014, to the Town Clerk's Office at 238 Main Street, P.O. Box 155, Cold Spring, New York.

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DATED: December 3, 2014

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presents

**Author, Jeffrey T. Sammons and  
Library President, Hamilton Fish**

A program celebrating the legacy of the 369th Regiment, New York's first black National Guard Unit which fought in World War I with Captain Hamilton Fish, founder of the Library.

**Sunday, December 7th at 2pm**  
[www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org)



# Messiah Concert To Go On Empty Podium Tribute to Stewart *(from page 1)*

the concerts will go directly to the Philipstown Food Pantry and to St. Mary's.

Last year, in speaking of the work, Stewart called every *Messiah* "a unique site-specific work. Handel himself prepared and conducted four separate productions with multiple performances of each. The performances in our own community will be carrying on traditions of love for the often soaring and sometimes searing solo and choral movements that have long endured in communities from the coal mining cities of England, to mass sing-alongs in vast halls, to rarefied reconstructions of one of Handel's original performances. Purists might say 'survived' is more like it. But for all its historic authenticity, this unique 75-minute production also embraces the affection felt by so many millions over so many years for moments they know by heart."

*Messiah* was acknowledged by many as a transcendent experience last year

and the question inevitably raised is "Why take the risk of repeating it and not achieving the same result?" In a discussion shortly before his death, Stewart succinctly stated, "It starts with the musicians; they wanted to do it." Though initially resistant to bringing it back, as "last year had a special dimension to it — it was the first time that 600 people, nearly 10 percent of the adult population of Philipstown, came together at one time, for one purpose," Stewart changed his mind. "Musicians who love this music want to play it and can play it, and people want to hear it yet cannot play it themselves, and that's the reason for these concerts. Last year's performances seemed to very much appeal to the highest level of professionals, largely because they could feel they were playing directly to people who wanted, and needed, to hear this."

Once again, these performances will how close to Handel's original presentations in terms of the size of the company of players.



Part of the orchestra which presented *Messiah* in 2013 Photo by Ross Corsair

## Memorial Service for Gordon Stewart

A memorial service will be held for Gordon Stewart  
Sunday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m.  
at St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Episcopal Church.  
Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

Among the special features will be the use of replicas of 18th-century period instruments by the musicians. "The instruments give the music a plangent, softer sound, a fractional tone lower than we are used to," Stewart explained last year.

Bassoonist Clay Zeller Thomson found his performance in Cold Spring last year to be "one of the most memorable concerts I've played in a long time." In comments made immediately prior to Stewart's death, Zeller Thomson said: "There was this feeling that THIS *Messiah* might actually mean something. I know a lot of it had to do with Gordon. I often play under conductors who go through the motions and basically throw something together (especially a work so famous as *Messiah*) ... but this was different. I was playing under a passionate musician who trusted the musicians he had gathered with everything. I felt valued. And while Gordon isn't a professional conductor, it didn't matter! It made it better, actually. He had a raw unbridled passion for every moment that he could not help but show to us. And that's all a professional orchestra needs sometimes."


Stewart, reflecting on hearing the music anew just before his passing, said: "People who saw it last year will hear different things. I'm hearing it differently this time around ... Handel was a theater

composer and knew how to excite an audience. When he was going through difficult times, he had these inspirations, which meant a great deal to him. Trying to go inside his soul and find things for musicians of this caliber to be stimulated by is a rare opportunity to make this happen."

John Feeney, principal double bass of the Orchestra of St. Luke's, commenting before Stewart's death, said: "Gordon Stewart infuses Handel's *Messiah* with his sense of community, humanity and civic responsibility. The universality of this music brings people together in a meaningful way that words can't capture. The musicians are inspired by Gordon's sense of purpose and the whole performance is a shared, creative experiment that is unique and important to all who are present — audience and performers alike."

Stewart, two days before he died, described his own relationship to the music: "It comes together and lifts off — you can feel it. It all starts from inside, just as it did with the man who wrote it, and what you feel and understand inside determines how your heart beats. That prepares you in advance how to share with the players. All that happens before a note is heard."

Tickets for *Messiah* can be purchased at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).



61 MAIN STREET 845.809.5522

## Please Join Us In Celebrating The Holiday Season!

**Friday, December 5, 2014, 6 - 8 p.m.-ish**  
It's "First Friday" in Cold Spring and we're having a PARTY!  
Stores are open late, discounts at most shops and restaurants.  
Complimentary adult beverages and local cheese and meat board.

**Saturday, December 6, 2014, Noon - 6 p.m.**  
Cold Spring by Candlelight: Historic Houses and Site Tour around Cold Spring.  
Live Music, Caroling and a visit from Santa himself!  
Stop by CSGS for festive shopping and sips!

**Saturday, December 6, 2014, 2 - 5 p.m.**  
Meet former Executive Pastry Chef of Thomas Keller Restaurant Group ~  
Including The French Laundry, Perse & Bouchon Bakery and Restaurant.  
Sebastien Rouxel will sign copies of this award winning book ~  
*Bouchon Bakery Cookbook*.

**Stay LOCAL, shop LOCAL and support LOCAL!**



# The Calendar

## ‘Heightening the Spook’

World’s End Theater presents Greg Miller in one-man show of *A Christmas Carol*

By Alison Rooney

A suddenly opened slot at the Philipstown Depot Theatre just before the holidays led to an exchange between Christine Bokhour and her World’s End Theater (WET) colleague Greg Miller, of the “Would you consider acting in *A Christmas Carol*?” and “How about you direct?” variety. Voilà, a show was born, and the results of that exchange, a one-man, 30-character Bokhour- and Miller-penned adaptation of the Dickens classic, will inhabit the stage there from Dec. 18 through 21.

Mining the riches of the source material, Bokhour and Miller were determined to use the original text, keeping Dickens’ syntax and vocabulary, with no re-phrasing. Though they have moved sections around and otherwise edited to conform to a 90-minute time frame, they have not used Dickens’ own condensed adaptation, which eliminated portions of the story and characters they wished to preserve.

“It was written to be read aloud,” Miller noted, “so in a sense, one-man versions are truer to the text than bigger shows with many actors.”

Both Miller and Bokhour wanted to place the emphasis on the darker doings



Inset, above left, Greg Miller, in character — one of his 30 — during *A Christmas Carol* rehearsal (Photo by Julie Heckert); above, Miller in *A Christmas Carol* at the Depot Theatre (Photo by Greg Gunder)

of the piece. “It’s a scary story,” Miller said, “and in order for the redemption to be full blown, you have to have gone to a dark place.”

Bokhour added: “Instead of the sitting-by-the-fireside-spinning-a-yarn approach, we’re heightening the spook, and we’re doing this with movement and vocal work. What people can do in

their minds can be so much scarier than a contrived effect. People will be more scared being washed over by words. We’re taking the oral tradition and raising the theatricality, using Greg’s great vocal ability.”

The character differentiation is not all in “the voice” as a whole, but instead is composed of gradations in “posture,

inflection, cadence, speed and dialect,” according to Miller. “Part of the fun of it is trying to find what each character is about — what they want ... there’s such a rich array.”

Asked what they feel makes *Christmas Carol* such a perennial, Miller was quick to reply: “It’s the Christ story. Scrooge begins (Continued on page 11)

## Bundles, Fragments and Clusters: Work by Stacey Farley at Garrison Art Center

*‘There is so much beauty in a well-stacked woodpile ... There is always something satisfying about finding materials out of the woods, which is so full of pattern and inspiration.’*

Bundles, Fragments and Clusters, an exhibition by Stacey Farley (see the April 29 feature story on Farley’s designs for Boscobel) in The Riverside Galleries at Garrison Art Center, coincides with the annual exhibition *small-WORKS* in the adjacent gallery. Farley’s work has its roots in the long tradition of landscape in Hudson Valley art. It is a contemporary take that explores the artist’s personal vision of our region through the organic materials existing quietly around us, and the narratives that tie us to the land.

The body of work on view Dec. 13 though Jan. 4 includes two-dimensional works as well as sculpture and installation. In the gallery windows, carefully stacked firewood forces gallery guests to see this everyday winter imagery in a new light, as they enter into a micro-

cosm of the Hudson Valley seen against a backdrop of surprising cobalt blue. Farley’s work is often documentary in nature, referencing images and materi-

als encountered in the dense woods that surround area homes and villages.

There are images of birds, forested hills, the patterns of bark and crystals

frozen on the surface of a puddle. Seemingly perched in the landscape, the images are placed on the surface of sliced or split (Continued on page 15)



Stacey Farley with her work

Photo courtesy of Garrison Art Center



# 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](http://philipstown.info). Send event listings to [calendar@philipstown.info](mailto:calendar@philipstown.info). See you around town!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

First Friday in Cold Spring

Kids & Community

Holiday Boutique

Sparkle!

PTA Kids Holiday Fun Night

Winter Waterfowl ID Workshop

Art & Design

Gallery 66 NY (Openings)

Group Show: Holiday Exhibit (Opening)

Drip & Sip Paint Party

Film & Theater

The Crucible (Teen Players)

The Trial of Goldilocks (Youth Players)

Calling All Poets

It's a Wonderful Life: The 1946 Radio Play

Music

Westchester All-Stars Christmas Concert

Four Local Bands

Conjunto Sazón (Salsa)

Judy Gold

Live Music

Beki Brindle and the Hotheads

Johnny Fedz & Friends

Joni Blondell Band

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Kids & Community

Breakfast With Santa

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

Melzinger Dam Hike (Moderate)

7th Annual Breakfast With Santa

Christmas Fair

Holiday Boutique

Make Your Own Holiday Gifts

WORK:SHOP Holiday Pop-up Sale

Orange Room Tour, Art, Games (ages 5+)

Holiday Boutique

Holiday Party With Santa

Cold Spring by Candlelight

Holiday Boutique Open House

Santa Visits Secret Garden

Sparkle!

Common Ground Farm Benefit Auction

Art & Design


Museum of Roots, Rock 'n' Roll Exhibit (Opening)

Small Works Show (Opening)

Film & Theater

It's a Wonderful Life (1946)

It's a Wonderful Life: The 1946 Radio Play



## Lament of an Expat

*How I discovered America and tried to mend it.*

~ Now in its 7th printing ~


**Leonora Burton**

*"If people are still reading literature this book might be acceptable as a stocking stuffer."*

~ Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge

*"It's best to read it with a gin and tonic at your elbow."*

~ Literary critic, Kathie Scanlon



*"The book has pictures, which is nice, but only a tiny one of me on the cover, which is not nice."*

~ Columnist, Tara

*"Aren't we giving too much space to this damned book? It's not War and Peace."*


~ Newspaper publisher, Gordon Stewart

*"I couldn't pick it up so I couldn't put it down."*

~ Scribbler, F. Scott Fitzgerald

*Lament of an Expat* is the sparkling, often bemused account of an expat's plunge into American culture with its love of the gun, its rigid constitution, its singular laws and with the kindness, warmth, generosity and humanity of ordinary Americans.

Buy it at Antipodean Books, Country Touch or Country Goose.



4 1st violins

3 2nd violins

2 violas

2 cellos

1 bass

2 oboes

2 bassoons

2 trumpets

1 tympani

1 harpsichord

1 positiv organ

1 solo soprano

1 solo countertenor

1 solo tenor

1 solo bass

20+ chorus

A Philipstown

# Messiah

by George Frideric Handel Parts I and II (abridged)

A special benefit for Saint Mary's-in-the-Highlands, and Philipstown Food Pantry

Featuring top professional period instrument players and singers

Prepared and conducted by Gordon Stewart in 2013, and performed in his memory.

July 22, 1939 – November 26, 2014

Sunday, December 21, 2014

2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., Reception: 3:30-4:30 \$20, \$100, \$250, \$500

Tickets: [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com)

All costs for these performances have been donated in the spirit of the season. All tickets and contributions will be tax-deductible to the extent provided by the law.

Saint Mary's-in-the-Highlands, 1 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, NY 845-265-2539 [stmaryscoldspring.org](http://stmaryscoldspring.org)







The Calendar (from page 9)

<b>The Esoteric History of Everyday Things (First Session)</b>
2 p.m. MSMC Desmond Campus 6 Albany Post Road, Newburgh 845-565-2076   msmc.edu/communityed
<b>PNHFD Commissioner Election</b>
6 - 9 p.m. North Highlands Fire Department 504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring 845-265-7285   nhfd21.org
<b>Solopreneurs Sounding Board</b>
6:30 - 9 p.m. Beahive Beacon   291 Main St., Beacon   845-765-1890   beahivebzzz.com
<b>Friends of Howland Public Library</b>
7 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134   beaconlibrary.org
<b>PTA Parent Support Group</b>
7 p.m. United Methodist Church 216 Main St., Cold Spring 845-424-6130   facebook.com/PTALearnDiff

<b>Board of Trustees</b>
7:30 p.m. Village Hall 85 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3611   coldspringny.gov
<b>Conservation Board</b>
7:30 p.m. Town Hall   238 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3329   philipstown.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

<b>Kids &amp; Community</b>
<b>Howland Public Library</b>
9:45 a.m. Come and Play (ages 0-3) 3 p.m. Toddler Tales (ages 2-3) 4 p.m. Crafty Kids Workshop   Details under Tuesday
<b>Preschool Story Hour (ages 3-5)</b>
1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Tuesday.
<b>Corks and Cupcakes (Tasting)</b>
6 - 8 p.m. Oak Vino Wine Bar 389 Main St., Beacon 845-765-2400   oakvino.com

<b>Film &amp; Theater</b>
<b>The Orchestrion Project (2012)</b>
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley See details under Saturday.
<b>Music</b>
<b>Music in the Time of Jane Austen</b>
3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134   beaconlibrary.org
<b>Club Irish Christmas Sing-a-long</b>
7 - 10 p.m. Depot Restaurant   1 Depot Square, Cold Spring   845-265-5000   coldspringdepot.com
<b>Irish Christmas in America</b>
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe See details under Friday.
<b>KJ Denhart</b>
8 p.m. 12 Grapes   See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

<b>Justice Court</b>
1 p.m. Village Hall 85 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3611   coldspringny.gov
<b>Friends of Butterfield Library</b>
7 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040   butterfieldlibrary.org
<b>Tioronda Garden Club</b>
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon 845-831-4988   howlandculturalcenter.org
<b>Historic District Review Board</b>
8 p.m. Village Hall   85 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3611   coldspringny.gov

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

<b>Kids &amp; Community</b>
<b>Howland Public Library</b>
10 a.m. Brain Games for Seniors 10:30 a.m. Pre-K Story Time (ages 3-5) 3:30 p.m. Come and Play (ages 0-3) 3:45 p.m. Lego Club (ages 4+) See details under Tuesday.

<b>Butterfield Library</b>
10:30 a.m. Bouncing Babies 12:30 p.m. Little Bookworms 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040   butterfieldlibrary.org
<b>Holiday Boutique</b>
2 - 9 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Friday.
<b>Children Read to Dogs</b>
3:30 - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Tuesday.
<b>Cold Spring Chamber Annual Holiday Dinner</b>
6:30 p.m. Chalet on the Hudson 3250 Route 9D, Cold Spring 845-265-3200   coldspringareachamber.org

Music

<b>Adam and Yan</b>
7:30 p.m. The Pandorica 165 Main St., Beacon   845-831-6287

Meetings & Lectures

<b>Haldane PTA</b>
3:30 p.m. Haldane School (Band Room) 15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254   haldanepta.org
<b>Code Update Committee</b>
7 p.m. Village Hall 85 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3611   coldspringny.gov
<b>Cold Spring Brewer's Meet Up</b>
8 p.m. The Pantry   3091 Route 9, Cold Spring 845-265-2840   thepantrycs.com

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

<b>Kids &amp; Community</b>
<b>Holiday Boutique</b>
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Dec. 5.
<b>Children's Film Series: Miracle on 34th Street (1947)</b>
4:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration 45 Market St., Cold Spring   chapelrestoration.org

(Continued on next page)



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**The Coffee Stories**  
Anita Rose Merando  
with Steve Raleigh - guitar  
Musical Memoir from Cold Spring and Beyond



## The Gift Hut

**Anita Rose Merando**  
will sign copies at:  
The Gift Hut  
86 Main Street, Cold Spring  
on December 6,  
and perform songs from the  
project accompanied by  
Steve Raleigh and Lew Scott at  
Whistling Willie's  
December 7, 5-8 p.m.

Many of you know that after living in Seattle for close to thirty years, I have come to live in my childhood Cold Spring home. Yes, you can go home again. This has been a fabulous experience, and in recent months I have set out to share stories and songs inspired by my childhood and my own parenting experiences. This is a simple recording of story, voice and guitar, and I am grateful to Steve Raleigh for his truly beautiful playing, and for his engineering and producing expertise. I'm very happy to say that my musical memoir project is in production as I write this, with a promise of delivery by December 1st.

 **GiftHut06@aim.com**  
**Phone 845.297.3786**



‘Heightening the Spook’ (from page 7)

as a creature who covets. At the end he is redeemed. To get to that place he has to go on this journey that involves the death of a small child. A sacrifice that allows him to embrace the light. That’s the basis of the stories we tell.”

Bokhour described it as being about opportunity. “After he is gifted with the opportunity to see the world, Scrooge embraces it. He wakes up in the morning from what is a bad dream and embraces his own propensity for love and joy and happiness.”

Both Bokhour and Miller come from small towns — Miller’s is Tryon, North Carolina, and Bokhour’s is Conneaut, Ohio. Both arrived in New York City in pursuit of theatrical careers. Although Miller intended to become a teacher, an early stage turn as Captain Hook altered that path. Majoring in dramatic arts at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he worked his way through it as a chef, and, after graduation, wound up as an executive chef at a large hotel.

“That was way more job than I wanted, and it proved to be what moved me out to New York to try to earn a living as an actor,” he said. By then

married to his wife Lynn and with a baby son, Jack, Miller made the move, solo, Lynn and Jack following a year later. Mixing paid work doing graphics for investment banks with off- and off-off-Broadway acting jobs was tough going, but he kept at it, moving to Cold Spring in 2004. Just four years later, Miller was laid off, one of the early casualties of the financial downturn.

The Millers decided to reinvent themselves. Lynn had a background in the food industry, and they asked themselves, “What can we do that might be fun, viable, and grow-able?” Arriving at the idea of fruit pops after much testing and research, they introduced Go-Go Pops in both a Main Street store and at nearby farmers markets. They’re still at it, doing some wholesaling while maintaining the Main Street storefront, and still selling at farmers markets, albeit honing it down to the largest ones. (At one crazy point, they were doing 12 of them each week.)

Miller said that his acting career benefited from his financial industry career’s upending: “Getting free of that was as important as being my own man-

ager of my time. Since then I have more opportunities to pursue acting work, and there’s been a lot of growth.”

Finally, I realized I had to get to New York. I had five bucks in my pocket, arrived to a foot of snow, and thought, ‘What have I done?’

Not only has Miller done the requisite trifecta of locally filmed *Law and Order* shows (playing “white collar and blue collar: a garbageman and a judge and several times a prison warden — once I oversaw an execution!”), his voice has been booming, so to speak. “Anyone who watches sports has heard me,” he said, naming spots for Auto Trader, Burger King, McDonalds, Xbox and AT&T that he has intoned. He has also been seen on *The Americans*, *Alpha House* and *Unforgettable*.

When asked, “What’s your backup plan, doing theater?” Bokhour said her thoughts were always, “What are you talking about?” At Western Kentucky University, she studied both dance and theater then moved to St. Louis and “exhausted the market there. Finally, I realized I had to get to New York. I had five bucks in my pocket, arrived to a foot of snow, and thought, ‘What have I done?’” she recalled. She ping-ponged in and out of the city, touring as a dancer around the country, doing a stint as a Rockette and teaching before landing long-term gigs in tours of *Cats* and *Chicago* and before the call came saying the magic phrase, “We want you on Broadway [in *Chicago*].”

What struck Bokhour, after finally achieving that dream, was that it wound up feeling like “another night, another show. That experience made me realize that the important part of performance is not that it’s ‘on Broadway’ but the connection you make to the art and to the audience, and you can do that in all kinds of ways and places. Part of that was maturity and part was that I was able to achieve part of my dream.”

During those years as a dancer, Bokhour often sought out massage and acupuncture treatments. “One day my brain said, ‘Go to acupuncture school,’” she recalled. Always interested in science throughout high school and college, she took long-distance classes while on tour and then realized that Chinese medicine “integrated so many parts of me. The practice also expanded my capacity as an actress, since in both I’m looking at how people connect with everything; they are incredibly related.” Since moving with her husband and young daughter to Cold Spring, which they discovered visiting friends, Bokhour has established a practice here and continues to maintain one in the city, spending two days in each, while becoming increasingly involved in local theater here.

*A Christmas Carol*, which also features lighting design by Donald Kimmel, sound effects by Lisa Sabin and costumes by Charlotte Palmer-Lane, will be performed on Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.; Dec. 19 at 8 p.m.; Dec. 20 at 4 and 8 p.m. and Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased through brownpapertickets.com. Miller and Bokhour said that, because of the spooky content, although it is dependent on the child, it might be best suited for ages 7 and up.

The Calendar (from page 10)

**Sparkle!**  
5 - 9 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Dec. 5.

**Kids’ Night Out (ages 5+)**  
6:30 - 9:30 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness  
17 Old Main St., Fishkill  
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

**Warwick Valley Winery and Distillery Dinner**  
7:15 p.m. The Garrison | 2015 Route 9, Garrison  
845-424-3604, ext. 25 | thegarrison.com

Health & Fitness

**Navigating Healthcare Options**  
10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon | 800-453-4666  
misn-ny.org. Appointment required.

Theater & Film

**All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914**  
7 p.m. St. Mary’s Church  
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring  
845-265-9575 | hvshakespeare.org

**International Film Night**  
7 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

**The Trial of the Big Bad Wolf (Youth Players)**  
7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre  
See details under Dec. 5.

**Cheaper by The Dozen**  
8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre  
445 Main St., Beacon | 845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

**The Santa Closet**  
8 p.m. Embark | 925 South St., Peekskill  
347-453-3182 | embarkpeekskill.com

**It’s a Wonderful Life: The 1946 Radio Play**  
7 p.m. Sound Effects Show & Tell  
8 p.m. Performance | Culinary Institute of America (Marriott Pavilion) | Details under Dec. 5

Music

**A John Denver Christmas Starring Ted Vigil**  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
See details under Wednesday.

**Myles Mancuso Band**  
8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | Details under Dec. 5

**Caravan of Thieves**  
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe  
See details under Dec. 5.

**Live Music**  
9 p.m. Whistling Willie’s | Details under Dec. 5

**T. Jay**  
9:30 p.m. Max’s on Main | Details under Dec. 5

**The Billy Joel Experience**  
10 p.m. The Hudson Room | Details under Dec. 5

**The Spookfish / Dean Cercone / Brown Bread**  
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Book Talk on Storm King’s Environmental Movement

Robert Lifset signs and discusses Power on the Hudson Dec. 9

A book-signing celebration and discussion of historian Robert A. Lifset’s *Power on the Hudson: Storm King Mountain and the Emergence of the Modern American Environmental Movement*, will be open to the public at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 9, at Boscobel in Garrison.

The book focuses on the epic battle over the mountain, starting in 1962, between the newly formed Scenic Hudson Preservation Conference and the Consolidated Edison Co., which sought to build a pumped storage hydroelectric power plant at Storm King on the Hudson River. Con Edison eventually gave up after 17 years, but early on in 1965, a landmark decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals in the case propelled a change in the law. For the first time, citizens and citizen groups concerned with the environment were given access to the federal courts, a move that empowered others across the country to follow, igniting the national environmental movement and the passage of the National Environmental Policy Act.

All this comes alive in *Power on the Hudson*, as Lifset takes the reader inside the courtrooms, press conferences, congressional hearings, and meetings as each side reacted to, and fought to shape, the tide of events. Beginning with scenery and ending with ecology, the battle surged back and forth on the local, state and federal levels, waged by a cast of characters that included a gutsy federal biologist at risk of losing his job, a rookie Congressman, a smug governor and a PR operative whose job was “to piss in Con Ed’s soup.”

The afternoon book celebration will begin with a talk by author Lifset, the Donald Keith Jones Associate Professor of Honors and History at the University of Oklahoma. Speakers following, all veterans of the Storm King battle, are journalist, author and Riverkeeper founder Robert H. Boyle; former Congressman and Dean Emeritus of Pace University Law School Richard Ottinger; ex-PR and Washington operative Michael Kitzmiller; and Attorney Albert K. Butzel, who helped craft the legal argument that opened the door to the federal courts. A book signing will follow.

Boscobel is at 1601 Route 9D in Garrison. For more information, call 845-265-3638. Attendance is free.

Share Your News with Our Readers

Share news and announcements with the readers of *Philipstown.info* and *The Paper*. To submit your upcoming events and announcements for consideration in our Community Briefs section (in print and online) submit a text-only press release (250 words or less) along with a separately attached high-resolution photograph to [arts@philipstown.info](mailto:arts@philipstown.info).



The Trial of Goldilocks

Photos courtesy of Depot Theatre

Depot Youth Players Present Courtroom Plays

*Trials of Goldilocks and the Big Bad Wolf* presented in December

The Youth Players at the Philipstown Depot Theatre present two courtroom fairytale comedies this December.

*The Trial of Goldilocks* runs Dec. 5, 6 and 7. The trial unfolds to uncover the truth of what happened at the Bear Family’s house that fateful day, with Josephine Russell in the title role and Maya Gelber, Zach Shannon and Lorelei McCarthy as the bears. Questioning led by District Attorney Muffinhead (Andrew Nachamkin) and Prosecutor Wombat (Maia Keller) will uncover the facts presented by the witnesses: an expert scientist (Hannah Benson), the lead investigator, Detective Sergeant Clorox (Fiona Shanahan), the Pig Who Was Not Eaten by the Wolf (Kat Buslovich) and character witness for the defendant, Merlin the Wolf (Sam Bates), and Bambi Deer (April Rose Ransom). With the help of her goofy and loveable bailiff (Charlie Keegan) and romantic novelist-cum-court reporter (Daniel Phillips), not to mention the unfocused jury members (Alex Danilov, Raunaq Kapoor, Kieran Warger and Grace Vogel), the judge (Sofia Wallis) will have a hard time getting to the truth of the crime and delivering her sentence.

In *The Trial of the Big Bad Wolf* on Dec. 12, 13 and 14, another group of fourth-through eighth-graders gets to portray some favorite fairytale and nursery rhyme characters. In a script written by Joseph Robinette, the Three Little Pigs (Abigail

Platt, Andrew Nachamkin and Anastasia Coope), and the Big Bad Wolf (Anneke Chan) get to tell their side of the story in the courtroom of Wise O. Al (Noah Bingham). Led by the court clerk (Aurora McKee), the jury helps the pigs and wolf recount their tales. The reporter (Mazzie Maxwell), newscaster (Edward Bauer) and town crier (Joia McKelvey) stretch the truth in their reports, adding to the hijinks. The jury is made up of fairytale characters played by John Vogel, Gabriel Berger, Anna Rowe, Chloe Rowe, Kate Meisner, Jude Columb, May Columb, Nickolas Meisner, Lola Ritell and Erica Bauer.

These young actors are led by Fay Gerbes Pacht and Thomas Kelley. Performances are at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5 and 12, 4 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6 and 13, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. Tickets are \$10 each and available at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com). Tickets are limited, so make reservations soon. For more information, call 845-424-3900.

Haldane Seeks Volunteers for Makerspace Classroom

*Persons with science, engineering, tech, art, and math expertise welcome*

Thanks to the generous support of the Haldane School Foundation and many wonderful community volunteers, Haldane’s new Makerspace Classroom is up and running, being used by both staff and students this year to embark on project-based learning (PBL) experiences.

While the space is already equipped with multiple programs and technology, the Elementary School Improvement Team (E-SIT) is soliciting additional volunteers from the community who have careers and/or core expertise in STEAM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) and may be willing to share their knowledge and unique skill sets with Haldane staff to help expand the use and capabilities of our new Makerspace Classroom. The school is in the beginning stages of learning how best to incorporate more hands-on PBL into the elementary and middle school curricu-

lums so that students will have greater opportunities to more deeply understand and apply academic concepts from the classroom to the real world. A makerspace supports exactly this kind of learning: It is a space where students can build resilience while allowing their imaginations and creativity to soar.

Those who feel their professional skill sets are in line with the makerspace philosophy should get in touch with the committee, which is soliciting interested individuals willing to develop a workshop for students specific to STEAM and/or multimedia. Forms can be requested and emailed directly to Principal Brent Harrington at [BHarrington@haldane.lhric.org](mailto:BHarrington@haldane.lhric.org), preferably by Dec. 23.

Amahl and the Night Visitors at Graymoor

*Child-friendly Christmas opera performed Dec. 13*

The Hudson Valley Lyric Opera will perform the Christmas opera *Amahl and the Night Visitors* at Graymoor at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13. This is a child-friendly one-act opera by Gian Carlo Menotti, sung in English, about the three kings who follow the star to bring gifts to the newborn Jesus, and a little boy named Amahl who receives a special gift from the kings. The matinee performance takes place in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Atonement at Graymoor (formerly Pilgrim Hall). Tickets for children over 11 and adults will be \$15; children under 11 are free. Tickets will be sold at the door on a first-come basis, and seating is not reserved.

The Atonement Friars invite attendees to come to the performance early to enjoy 100 crèches from around the world on display in the St. Pius X building on the fifth floor. There is no cost to partake in this Graymoor Christmas tradition, and the crèches are on display all through Advent, Christmas and the New Year holiday.

Graymoor is located on Route 9 in Garrison. For information, call the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center at 845-424-2111.

Desmond-Fish Hosts Talk on WWI Black Regiment

*Harlem’s Rattlers and the Great War author speaks with Hamilton Fish*

On Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m., author Jeffrey T. Sammons and the Desmond-Fish Library board president, Hamilton Fish, will give a presentation on Sammons’ new book, *Harlem’s Rattlers and the Great War: The Undaunted 369th Regiment and the African American Quest for Equality*. The book explores the legacy of the 369th Regiment, New York’s first black National Guard unit, which fought in World War I with Capt. Hamilton Fish, founder of the Desmond-Fish Library. Sammons will share the details of Capt. Fish’s role in the complex history of the groundbreaking and highly decorated military unit. The program is being held at the Desmond-Fish Library, at the corner of Routes 9D and 403 in Garrison, and is free and open to the public.

(To next page)

Youth Players present:

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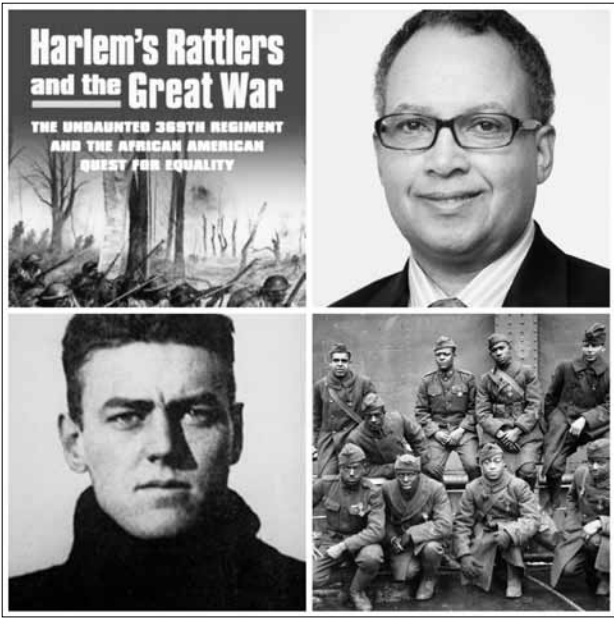


Photo courtesy of Desmond-Fish Library

(From previous page) Sammons is a professor in the Department of History at New York University, where he has taught since 1989. He began his academic career at the University of Houston and as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Cape Town before being named, in 1987, a Henry Rutgers Research Fellow at Rutgers University-Camden where he completed *Beyond the Ring: The Role of Boxing in American Society*. Sammons has also taught at Princeton University and at Hollins University as a Jessie Ball du Pont Scholar.

For more information, call 845-424-3020 or visit [desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org).

Group Show of Artists of Buster Levi Gallery

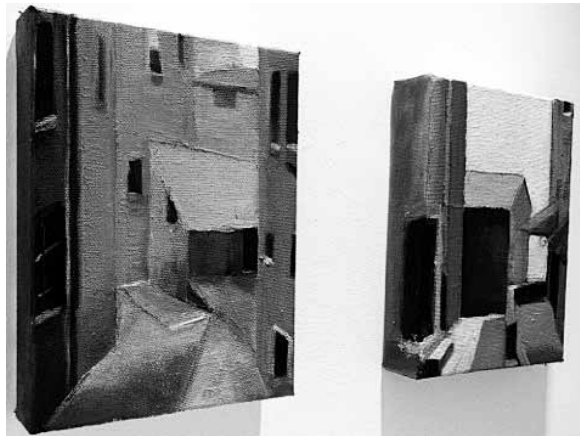
First Friday opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Buster Levi Gallery in Cold Spring will have an opening for their group show on Friday, Dec. 5, presenting work by all 14 of its founding artists.

This show embodies the diversity and artistic talent that first led to the creation of the gallery, intended as a place where artists and viewers can interact, and where dialogue of the artistic experience goes well beyond the price of a work.

The exhibition is a miniature museum, a place where artists and audience can reflect on who we are, and how these artists have chosen to illustrate life through their own vision. Organizers say the show promises the viewer travel, through a variety of styles, materials and emotion, each piece revealing a vision as diverse as we are to each other.

The Buster Levi Gallery will have an opening reception for the show on Dec. 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 121 Main St. in Cold Spring. The show runs through Feb. 1, with viewing Friday through Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. or by appointment. For more information, call 845-809-5145 or visit [bustervigallery.com](http://bustervigallery.com).



Oil paintings by Maria Pia Marrella

Photo courtesy of Buster Levi Gallery

Visit [www.philipstown.info](http://www.philipstown.info) for news updates and latest information.

Vassar Ensemble Performs *Peter and the Wolf* Dec. 13

Children encouraged to attend educational concert

Vassar College's Mahagonny Ensemble is performing *Peter and the Wolf*, Sergei Prokofiev's classic narrative piece, for their winter concert at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13, in Skinner Hall's Mary Anna Fox Martel Recital Hall. This performance is free and open to the public. Families are encouraged to attend.

Mahagonny is comprised entirely of Vassar student players and is led by senior Sam Plotkin. This performance will also feature the Mahagonny Choir performing a collection of contemporary works by Gjeilo, Takach, Beibl and student composers. The choir director is senior Julia Boscov-Ellen.



Vassar Mahagonny Ensemble

Photo courtesy of Vassar

Prokofiev was commissioned by the Central Children's Theater in Moscow in 1936 to write a symphony for children, and the intention of the piece was to help introduce classical music to children in a fun way that highlights the differences between instruments.

The Mahagonny Ensemble, founded in 2000 with a performance of the Kurt Weill operetta *Mahagonny Songspiel*, dedicated to promoting the creativity of instrumentalists, singers and composers interested in performing and writing contemporary classical music. The group's goal is to give a voice to unique works from the last 100 years that may otherwise not be heard at Vassar.

Individuals with disabilities requiring special accommodations must contact the Office of Campus Activities at least 48 hours in advance of an event at 845-437-5370. For information, visit [vassar.edu](http://vassar.edu).



David Rothenberg

Intro to Bird Feeding at Hubbard Lodge Dec. 7

Putnam Highlands Audubon program for beginners

On Sunday, Dec. 7, at 10 a.m. at Hubbard Lodge on Route 9 (just north of Route 301), the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society is hosting a program on setting up and maintaining bird feeders for the many species of birds that over-winter in the area. With a small investment in seeds, a household can enjoy many hours of bird viewing and wildlife watching.

Scott Silver, director and curator of animals at the Wildlife Conservation Society's Queens Zoo, will introduce people who are new to bird feeding to the experience. He will outline some of the considerations for setting up a feeder and offer suggestions on identification.

For more information about PHAS or the program go to [putnamhighland-saudubon.org](http://putnamhighland-saudubon.org).



Bird feeder

Photo by Eric Lind

Beacon

Cold Spring's Rothenberg at Quinn's Jazz Sessions

Forms duo with drummer Jim Black on Dec. 8

Monday jazz sessions at Quinn's presents a rare performance by percussionist Jim Black and Hudson Valley-based musician and author David Rothenberg. The duo will play at 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8.

Musician, composer, author, scholar and philosopher-naturalist Rothenberg has written and performed on the relationship between humans and nature for many years. He is the author of *Why Birds Sing*, on making music with birds, which was turned into a feature-length BBC documentary. His latest book, *Bug Music*, on insects and music, was published in April 2013 by St. Martin's Press.

Rothenberg is also a composer and jazz clarinetist and saxophonist, and he has nine CDs out under his own name. He is professor of philosophy and music at the New Jersey Institute of Technology,

which has encouraged and supported all of his creative projects since 1992. In the Hudson Valley, Rothenberg produced a record of popular music with his friends in Cold Spring, Painted Betty.

Black has become an in-demand drummer in avant-garde jazz and experimental rock. After growing up in Seattle, he moved to Boston to attend Berklee and began performing and recording with Human Feel. In 1991 Black moved from Boston to New York City, where he played with many prominent jazz musicians. As the 2000s began, Black surprised some of his jazz fans with the establishment of his rock-inclined AlasNoAxis quartet, which has released four CDs. One of Black's highest-profile gigs has been as drummer for Laurie Anderson's touring band.

Quinn's is located at 330 Main St. in Beacon. As with all Monday jazz sessions at Quinn's, there will be no cover charge at the door, though donations for the artists are suggested.

Museum of Roots, Rock 'n' Roll Exhibit at Howland Cultural Center

Music-related paraphernalia, photos and paintings

Ned Moran, owner and developer of the Avalon Archives Museum of Roots, Rock 'n' Roll in Brewster, which celebrates the history of rock 'n' roll music, will return to the Howland Cultural Center in an exhibition for the 10th consecutive year. The exhibition will also feature two artists of the Hudson Valley who have long been associated with Ned Moran, with photography by Jim Rice and paintings by Todd Samara.

The exhibition will run from Dec. 6 through 28, with an opening reception to take place from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6. During the reception, an up-and-coming young performer, Halley Knox, will sing and play guitar.

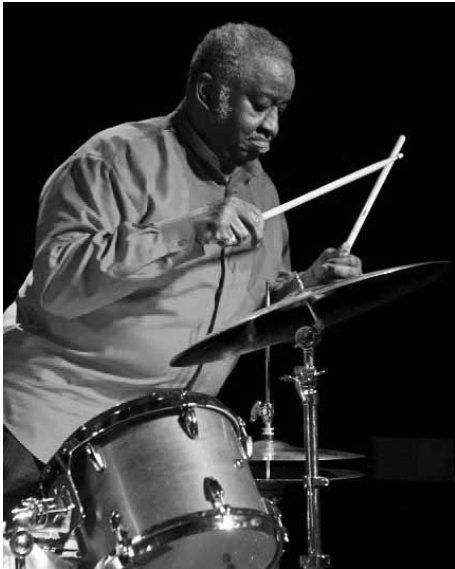


Photo credit: JamesRicePhotography.com

The art gallery will be open most Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m., except for several events that will close the gallery to the viewing public.

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. (at the east end) in Beacon. For further information and/or directions, call 845-831-4988.

NY Alert

For the latest updates on weather-related or other emergencies, sign up at [www.nyalert.gov](http://www.nyalert.gov).



Sports

Building Bridges Rowers Are Northeast Regional Champs

First four in a surprising win after tight race

Early on Nov. 22, the rowers from Building Bridges Building Boats gathered on a beach in Hull, Massachusetts, along with 190 other high school students to compete in the Northeast Regional Youth Open-Water Rowing Championships, aka the Icebreaker. The temperature was 35 degrees with a steady 15-knot wind, gusting to 30, that was blowing straight onto the beach across the transoms of 28 gig boats lined up along the sand.

There were to be three races in each of seven classes, a total of 21 matches. The first race was six-oared boats crewed by second-boat (junior varsity) rowers followed by two heats of novice fours. That was as far as it got before all the coaches were summoned to the top floor of the unheated boathouse. The wind, as forecast, was rising, and there were whitecaps in the bay. Ed McCabe, the perennial boat guru

of the Icebreaker, described the conditions from the point of view of the chase boat. It was quickly agreed that it was too dangerous to continue as planned. After a lively discussion, coaches signed onto the principle that only the most experienced rowers would be allowed to compete.

The new racing protocol started with first sixes. BBBB rowers had never been in a six-oared gig, but they decided that since it was the best chance to get the most rowers on the water they would take it. These boats need six rowers and a coxswain. BBBB had brought seven rowers and a coxswain. It was obvious to the crew of mostly seniors that it should be a junior that would get left behind. Accordingly, six seniors and one junior from Haldane climbed into the six-oared gig named Kittery and clawed off the shore into the breaking waves. They lost. But



The BBBB crew Nov. 22 in Hull Photo by Damien McDonald

they hung in and stayed with the pack.

The next and, as it turned out, final race was first fours, and each team was to compete in the boat it came with. The BBBB boys, some of whom were looking pretty beat after the first race, jumped at the chance to row their own beloved boat and give the unraced junior a chance to compete. Once again there was a half-mile pull against formidable breaking waves to even get to the start, but get there they did, lining up against the best open water rowers in the Northeast.

When the horn blew the start, BBBB rowers in the Robert C. Bickford jumped out to an early lead. Over the next thousand feet, the Sound School gig crept up until she was gunwale to gunwale with the Bickford. Both boats pulled hard toward the windward side of the first buoy, resulting in a minor oar tangle that allowed Stuyvesant High School out of New York City to close the gap. This had all three gigs heading pell-mell into a cluster at the first turn. BBBB rowers did what they knew to do, which was to row hard without cease until they squirted out of

the pack leaving the two other boats in a tangle, unable to keep from being blown down on the wrong side of the mark.

Well ahead of the two other boats but now missing an oar as a result of the fray, Robert C. Bickford headed toward the last buoy. The other two gigs followed in Bickford's wake making steady progress until suddenly one of the gigs, then the other, turned toward the shore and, ignoring the second mark entirely, raced across the finish line. Meanwhile, BBBB continued alone rounding the second buoy as McCabe in the chase boat lay off Bickford's quarter and yelled against the wind, "Keep rowing! Never give up! Trust me." Three of the BBBB boys continued pulling heartily, massively in fact, while the fourth sat oarless and still in order not to wick any energy away from Bickford or the remaining rowers.





Onshore it was assumed that BBBB had lost. Nonetheless the crew was laughing and high-fiving, energized by the incontrovertible truth that at that moment they were the equal of any of the four-oared gig crews in the Northeast.

At the awards ceremony, McCabe, to the surprise of many, declared BBBB the winners and thus champions and awarded the crew a plaque. The BBBB boys had done what years on the Hudson River trained them to do: to row together, no matter the conditions, and not to stop until each of them arrived at their destination.

The crew consisted of Max Silverman, Henry Dul, Cameron Henderson, John Swartzwalder, Corbett Francis, Wylie McDonald, Nolan Shea and Cooper Nugent.

~ David Hardy

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Roots and Shoots

Climate Change in Philipstown: The Impact on the Hudson River

By Pamela Doan

As strange as it sounds, the information was dire but the panelists expressed optimism at the Desmond-Fish Library Talk “The Hudson River and Climate Change” Tuesday, Nov. 25. The free event was jointly presented by the Desmond-Fish Library and the Garrison Union Free School and featured a well-organized three-part program with five local experts facilitated by library trustee Fred Osborn.

Dr. Radley Horton, Garrison resident and a climate scientist with the Center for Climate Systems Research at Columbia University, opened the discussion with a presentation on how greenhouse gases function to keep the atmosphere on our planet livable and the effect that we’ve created by burning fossil fuels and releasing an inordinate amount of carbon. These gases work by

trapping heat and as we’ve added more and more carbon, creating a feedback loop for all life on Earth.

Horton stated that the global temperature has risen 1 ½ degrees since the Industrial Revolution, when we started burning fossil fuels. He said: “What sounds like a small amount of warming has already had a big effect not just on our climate system, but on our agriculture ecosystems. We’ve



Sacha Spector and Radley Horton discuss the impact of climate change on the Hudson River Nov. 25 at the Garrison School.

Photo by P. Doan

seen loss of land-based ice in Greenland, Antarctica and glaciers; warming of the upper oceans; changes in coral reefs; and increasing frequency of temperature extremes. In the U.S. over the past decade we’ve had twice as many record-breaking high temperatures as there were record-breaking cold temperatures set. A small shift has had a big impact on types of extremes.” As an example of these extremes, last winter felt unusually cold to us here in the Northeast, but globally, it was the warmest on

record. These extreme temperatures affect temperatures in specific parts of the world differently.

Bringing the conversation to the local level, Horton said that our average temperatures are two degrees warmer in New York over the last century. His group’s projections for us through 2050 anticipate anywhere from 3 to 6 degrees of warming in the worst-case scenario. Horton said: “If we see that type of warming, we can count on much more frequent extreme events. Heat waves, at minimum, would double in frequency, not just more days over 90, but the nights are warmer and the heat waves are longer lasting.”

When it comes to the Hudson River, the main subject of the discussion, the chief impact will be sea-level rise. Within the next 30 to 40 years, the river level is expected to rise at least 7 inches to 1 foot in the best-case scenario. In the worst-case scenario, it’s projected to be 6 feet higher by 2080. Horton said: “The bottom line is that even if we luck out and get the best-case scenario, it would double the incidences of coastal flooding we’ve had

in the past. We don’t need Superstorm Sandys, just the regular type of storms we’ve had in the past to get this.” The infrastructure and life on the Hudson will be dramatically impacted and the message from all participants is that we need to plan now and we need to act now.

Sacha Spector, the director of conservation science at Scenic Hudson, talked in more depth about the factors affecting the Hudson River from global warming. Over a century, the river rose about a foot. However, in just the last 19 years the average is more than twice what it was in the past 150 years, and in the past five years, it’s been about five times as fast.

To understand what contributes to rising sea levels, Spector explained that water expands as it gets warmer, and all the water bodies on earth are warming. Melting land ice, terrestrial water that we pump out of the ground and then into the sea, changes in ocean currents, and sinking land are all contributing factors to the changing river level.

If we see 2- 4 feet increases in the most modest projection by the end of the century, Spector said, “about 9,300 acres will be underwater at high tide and an additional 11,000 acres will be at risk of more frequent flooding.” In a more likely scenario with a 6-foot rise, there are currently 7,000 people in places that will be underwater at high tide and an additional 22,000 who will be at risk for flooding. Metro-North’s route along the Hudson will be at risk, along with wastewater treatment plants, brownfields along the river, and the Indian Point nuclear power plant just south of here.

Next week’s Roots and Shoots will continue the discussion of climate change and the Hudson River with more about ways to mitigate and adapt to the changes.

Bundles, Fragments and Clusters: Work by Stacey Farley at Garrison Art Center

(from page 7)

wood, leaves and ceramic pieces. On the floor, bundles of firewood bear the familiar landscapes of the area and hint at stories of the artist’s family at play — on the lake where her family skates in winter and in fields of hay in late summer. Elsewhere, tiny but vast landscape images appear on leaf surfaces, backlit to reveal their own elegant inner structure and strength.


Tile works by the artist, like discursive lists documenting local vegetation, bring to mind an image of the artist with pockets full of twigs, and flowering plants found on long walks in the woods, all the while reminding us that Farley has been making ceramic tile art for over 25 years.

There will be an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 13. The exhibition closes Jan. 4. Galleries are closed Mondays and will also be closed weekdays from Dec. 24 through Jan. 1 but opens weekends and other days from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit garrisonartcenter.org.




Log Pile by Stacey Farley

Image courtesy of Garrison Art Center



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