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 Loreto 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 headed for work on a job for the NBC television network. He left behind his wife Nancy Montgomery and three sons. 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 alert 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 control 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)

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

Attacking SAFE Act by defunding it proposed at state level

By Liz Schervethuk Armstrong

Putnam County’s top leaders joined firearm owners Wednesday night (Dec. 18) 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)
An American Native

By Joe Diizny

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 loooong 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 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 in baking, but try to imagine Boston baked beans without it).

For the version presented here, I’ve used both a higher proportion of maple syrup to soften the edges of the comparatively “rough” blackstrap molasses. Preliminary cooking on the stove top and the inclusion of beaten eggs helps to achieve a smooth, more custard-like consistency. A simple cranberry sauce provides a tart brightness and some additional holiday color. You might consider stirring 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
½ cup maple syrup
¼ cup blackstrap molasses
½ teaspoon ground ginger
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup raw sugar
1 to 2 eggs, beaten

For the sauce:

1 cup dried cranberries
¼ cup orange juice
¼ cup raw sugar
¼ teaspoon orange zest
1 cup toasted, roughly chopped walnuts

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 buttered casserole and set it into the warm water bath in the oven. Cover tightly with foil and cook for at least three hours, checking occasionally to see that it doesn’t get too dry.

2. 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.

3. 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 of the cranberry sauce and an additional sprinkling of walnuts.

Photo by J. Dizney
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 similar back story. 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.

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, of Philipstown, 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 want to see the quarry from the other side. 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 5 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 run-off 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 no place to land safely,” he remembered thinking. “They couldn’t get there fast enough.”

Recuers 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 quick- ly 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 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.”

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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 Fire team could arrive. When the Technical Rescue Team got there, one of its members rappelled down to Graff and quickly fastened him into a harness. “The guy who came down to me was totally professional,” Graff remembered. “We had 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.”

On December 2nd, 2014, the following resolutions were adopted by unanimous vote.

Whereas, Mr. Stewart was an ardent supporter of the Cold Spring Fire Company, No. 1, who departed this life on November 26rd, 2014. Whereas: 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.

Joshua DiNardo, Chief
Metro-North Talks Up Safety

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.

Charles Schwartz 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 financial incentives for train systems to install positive train controls.

“One year after a Metro-North derailment in the Bronx, our former neighbors, there is still much we need to do to prevent this kind of tragedy from happening again. While our community passes 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 safety improvement 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, mostly targeting the federal government. The SAFE Act, the parent organization of Metro-North, to take the heat and do what was needed in response. The issue of train safety on commuter lines, he argued, is not a significant role in the gubernatorial or legisla-

tively 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 re-

The Paper

Metro-North spokesperson. Anders' email sought to correct a mis-

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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 tea and 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 — 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 working. 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 Thunderdiving Studio; paper houses and teapots with teacups that hold votive lights from Cecile Lindstedt; functional and decorative ceramics by Polly Myrrhum; and, in a mix of architecture and decoration, castles fashioned entirely from cut-up wine and champagne bottle corks (some of the finals on the towers are acorns) by Mariran 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 of Design in the ‘70s and has worked in architecture and design firms since, largely on high-end residential projects; he has served as senior interior designer and senior project manager for several and as director of interior design for Allan Greenberg, architect, where he established and ran the interior design division of a multi-office, classical prac- tice. His projects there included a 60,000-square-foot residence in Connecticut, as well as several Park Avenue apartments, designing many components for these projects, including rugs, furniture and lighting. For eight years Burleigh served as principal of his own design firm.

On Burleigh’s “in the future, maybe!” list is opening up a store in Cold Spring. Presenting Ornamentum at WORK: SHOP is a bit of a dip- ping-toes-in-the-water tester toward that. “With the opening of several high-end shops in Cold Spring doing quite well, a home goods store is potentially viable,” Burleigh noted.

Burleigh and his husband, Lithgow Osborne (who recently ran for office as Putnam County clerk) have been living in the area for about 12 years, having moved from Manhattan after out-growing their space there. Finding Garrison through friends, Burleigh has been “continually surprised by how many creative people there are in Philipstown: artists, writers, documentary filmmakers. Like-minded individuals make for a wonderful atmosphere,” he said.

On the artisans he is showing in the sale, he said, “I just met them — I didn’t have to go out and find them. They’ve all become friends, and it’s nice to support my friends and further what they do.”

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

• Beacon Knits – one-of-a-kind wool hats
• Beth Bolza – functional pots, made in Brooklyn
• Kit Burke-Smith (Beacon) – jewelry
• Jenny Lee Fowler – fine paper cuttings
• Ten Willow (Beacon) – mismatched 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
• Fruiton chocolate – bean to bar chocolatiers
• Fox & Castle (Cold Spring) – handcrafted jewelry and textiles

WORK: SHOP, which is sponsored by Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center, Hudson Woods, The Hudson Valley Table, The Hop and The Roundhouse, will be open on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sun- day, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Wickham Wood-working, 579 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 workshopsvirth.com.
Messiah Concert To Go On Empty Podium Tribute to Stewart

(from page 1)

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 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 those 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.

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 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 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 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 through 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-com of the Hudson Valley seen against a backdrop of surprising cobalt blue. Farley’s work is often documentary in nature, referencing images and materials encountered in the dense woods that surround area homes and villages. There are images of birds, forested hills, the patterns of bark and crystals on trees, the beauty of a well-stacked woodpile, and the sense of place that our region evokes.

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)

Stacey Farley with her work

Photo courtesy of Garrison Art Center
Lament of an Expat
How I discovered America and tried to mend it.
- Now in its 7th printing -
Leonora Burton
"If you are still reading literature this book might be acceptable as a stocking-stuffer."
- Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge

“The book has pictures, which is nice, but only a tiny one of me on the cover, which is not nice.”
- Columnist, Tara

“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.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

First Friday in Cold Spring
Kids & Community
Holiday Boutique 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-265-3652 | desmondfishlibrary.org
Sparkler Sparkle 8:30 a.m. Boscobel 1605 Route 9D, Garrison 845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
PTA Kids Holiday Fun Night 6 - 9 p.m. Garrison School Garrison School 1100 Route 9D, Garrison 845-424-3689 | gulfsppta.org
Winter Waterfowl ID Workshop 10 a.m. Wickham Workshop 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wickham Workshop 917-692-1159 | midhudsonadk.org
Art & Design Gallery 66 NY (Openings) Cindy Booth and SuHua Chen Low: Transitions Group Show: Small Treasures 6 - 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY 66 Main St., Cold Spring 845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com
Group Show: Holiday Exhibit (Opening) 6 - 8 p.m. Gallery 66 NY 66 Main St., Cold Spring 845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com
Drip & Sip Paint Party 7:15 Thru the Pantry 3004 Route 9, Cold Spring 845-265-2840 | thepantrycs.com

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**

**Kids & Community**

- **Breakfast With Santa** 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Bear Mountain Inn See details under Saturday.
- **Gingerbread House Workshop** 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Philipstown Recreation Center | 107 Glenhyrst Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.org
- **Nature in Winter** 10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center See details under Saturday.
- **Feeding of Over-wintering Birds (Talk)** 10 a.m. Hubbard Lodge 2880 Route 9, Cold Spring putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

**WORKSHOP Holiday Pop-up Sale**

- 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wishkshop Workshop See details under Saturday.

**Beacon Farmers Market**

- 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center Long Dock Drive, Beacon 845-234-9325 | beaconfarmersmarket.org

**Buddhist Sunday School (ages 5+)**

- 12:30 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga 75 Main St., Cold Spring 917-536-7646 | skybabyyoga.com

**Holiday Boutique**

- 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Friday.

**Hudson Vacation Popper Parties: The Snow Queen**

- 3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

**Film & Theater**

- I’ll Be Home by Christmas: Keeping in Touch With the Ones Back Home 2 p.m. National Purple Heart Hall of Honor 374 Temple Hill Road, New Windsor 845-561-1765 | thepurpletowelheart.com

**Spotlight on Women**

- 2 p.m. Panel discussion
- 3 p.m. What Comes Around (play)
- 4 p.m. Dance performance

**Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art**

- 1701 Main St., Peeskill | 914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

**The Trial of Goldilocks**

- 2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Friday.

**It’s a Wonderful Life: The 1946 Radio Play**

- 2 p.m. Performance | Culinary Institute of America (Marriott Pavilion) | Details under Friday.

**Music**

- **Jim Black & David Rothenberg (Jazz)** 8 p.m. Quinn’s | See details under Friday.

**Meetings & Lectures**

- **Zoning board of appeals** 7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

**Garrick’s Talk (Talk)**

- 2 p.m. Panel discussion
- 3 p.m. What Comes Around (play)
- 4 p.m. Dance performance

- **Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art**
  - 1701 Main St., Peeskill | 914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

**West Point Band Holiday Show**

- 12:30 p.m. Eisenhower Hall Theatre See details under Saturday.

**Anita Morando: The Coffee Stories (CD Release)**

- 5 - 8 p.m. Whistling Willie’s | 184 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

**Brother Sun**

- 7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe See details under Friday.

**Stephen Clair and the Millionaires**

- 8 p.m. Quinn’s | See details under Friday.

**Meetings & Lectures**

- **Jeffrey Sammons: Harlem’s Rattlers (Talk)**
  - 2 p.m. Performance | Culinary Institute of America (Marriott Pavilion) | Details under Friday.

**Music**

- **Jim Black & David Rothenberg (Jazz)** 8 p.m. Quinn’s | See details under Friday.

**Meetings & Lectures**

- **Zoning board of appeals** 7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

**Craft Hour (grades 2+)**

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

**Sports**

- **Haldane vs. Ketcham (Boys Basketball)**
  - 6 p.m. Haldane School 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-0954 | haldaneschool.org

**Army vs. Bryant (Men’s Basketball)**

- 7 p.m. Christ Arena | Fenton Place, West Point 845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

**Art & Design**

- **Boscobel Open to Artists**
  - 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 1605 Route 9, Garrison 845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

**Music**

- **Old-Time Southern Fiddle Jam**
  - 7 - 10 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Buies 845-631-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

**Meetings & Lectures**

- **Book Club: A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**
  - 1:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 1605 Main St., Buies 845-631-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

**Music**

- **Stacey Farley Bundles, Fragments and Clusters**

**Two exhibitions: Dec 13 - Jan 4, Reception Dec 13, 5 - 7 pm**

**Garrison Art Center**

- **Stacey Farley Bundles, Fragments and Clusters**

**“A Gem...The Towne Crier takes its food seriously.” — NYTimes**

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**New Year’s Eve!**

- **Annual Dyack Band-Run Store Club Large All-Year Round Show**

- 7:30 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508

- **Friday, December 13, 8:30 PM**
  - **JUDY GOLD**
  - **guest DAVE GOLDBERG**
  - Saturday, December 14, 8:00 PM
  - **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**
  - for kids—includes breakfast
  - **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 8:00 PM**
  - **POPA CHUBBY BAND**
  - **BROTHER SUN guest THE CUPCAKES**

- **Wednesday, December 11, 7:30 PM**
  - **IRISH CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA**
  - **Friday, December 13, 8:00 PM**
  - **THE "BAND" BAND**
  - **Last Waltz Anniversary Show**

- **Open Mic Mon. and Wed. 7:30 PM**

- **Tickets and info: townecrier.com | 845-656-1330**

- **Open for Lunch and Dinner Daily**

- **Brunch daily from 4:30 PM with live music Sunday Dinner from 4:30 PM with live music Thursday Dinner from 4:30 PM with live music Closed Tuesdays**

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**Music**

- **Jim Black & David Rothenberg (Jazz)** 8 p.m. Quinn’s | See details under Friday.

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

**Sports**

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**Garrison Art Center**

- **Two exhibitions: Dec 13 - Jan 4, Reception Dec 13, 5 - 7 pm**

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**STACEY FARLEY Bundles, Fragments and Clusters**

- **Elizabeth Arnold**
- **Sarah Bentley**
- **Caroline Blum**
- **Christina Baril**
- **Sarah Coble**
- **Imogene Drummond**
- **Aidan Earle**
- **Diane Englander**
- **Domina Faranda**
- **Ginny Housam Friedman**
- **Alan Gaynor**
- **Ruth Geneslaw**
- **Lindi Gesman**
- **Erica Hauser**
- **Deborah Heid**
- **Niki Hill**
- **Debort Jackson**
- **Seunghwu Ko**
- **Tara Koop**
- **Don McCormack**
- **Barbara Monse Lulibel**
- **Jessica Nash**
- **Natasha Rabin**
- **Rosemary Rednour**
- **Judith Rose**
- **Lauren Sandler**
- **Tad Soe**
- **Patricia Schnepp**
- **Kathleen Shover**
- **Lisa Steffens**
- **Michael Stepinsky**
- **Tara Toyon**
- **Peter Tilgner**
- **Victoria Thorsen**
- **Benedic Von-Winkel**
- **Deborah Weiss**
- **Galelyn Williams**
- **Agata Woslawowska**
- **Charles Zigmund**
- **Tamar Zinn**
The Calendar (from page 9)

The Esoteric History of Everyday Things (First Session)
2 p.m. MSMC Desmond Campus
6 Albany Post Road, Newburgh
845-565-2076 | msmc.edu/communityed

PNHD Commissioner Election
6 - 9 p.m. North Highlands Fire Department
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
845-265-7285 | mnd21.org

Sopranos Sounding Board
6:30 - 9 p.m. Beahive Beacon | 291 Main St., Beacon | 845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com
6:30 - 9 p.m. Beahive Beacon | 291 Main St., Beacon | 845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Friends of Howland Public Library
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

PTA Parent Support Group
7 p.m. United Methodist Church
216 Main St., Cold Spring
845-424-6130 | facebook.com/PTAlearnDiff

Board of Trustees
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | castingspringny.gov

Conservation Board
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Kids & Community
Howland Public Library
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

Preschool Story Hour (ages 3-5)
1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Tuesday

Corks and Cupcakes (Testing)
6 - 8 p.m. Oak Vino Wine Bar
389 Main St., Beacon
845-765-2400 | salwine.com

Justice Court
1 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | castingspringny.gov

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

Toronda Garden Club
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Historic District Review Board
8 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | castingspringny.gov

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

Kids & Community
Howland Public Library
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.

Batterfield Library
10:30 a.m. Bouncing Babies
12:30 p.m. Little Bookworms
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Holiday Boutique
2 - 9 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Children Read to Dogs
3:30 - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Tuesday.

Cold Spring Chamber Annual Holiday Dinner
6:30 p.m. Chalet on the Hudson
3250 Route 90, Cold Spring
845-265-3200 | coldspringareachamber.org

Music
Adam and Yan
7:30 p.m. The Pandora
165 Main St., Beacon | 845-631-6287

Meetings & Lectures
Hablan PTA
3:30 p.m. Haldane School (Band Room)
15 Crospike Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | hablanpta.org

Coho Update Committee
7 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | castingspringny.gov

Cold Spring Brewer’s Meet Up
8 p.m. The Pantry | 3091 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-265-2840 | thepantrycs.com

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Kids & Community
Holiday Boutique
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Dec. 5.

Children’s Film Series: Miracle on 34th Street (1947)
4:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring | chapelrestoration.org

(Continued on next page)
The Calendar (from page 10)

Sparkle!  5 p.m., Boscobel | See details under Dec. 5.

Kid’s Night Out (ages 5–11)  6:30–9:30 p.m., All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill  845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Warwick Valley Wineery and Distillery Dinner  7:15 p.m., The Garrison | 2015 Route 9, Garrison
845-624-3604, ext. 25 | thegarrison.com

Health & Fitness
Navigating Healthcare Options  10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon | 800-453-4660
mindsight.org. Appointment required.

Theater & Film
All in a Call: The Christmas Truce of 1914  7 p.m., St. Mary’s Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-9575 | hvshakespeare.org

The Theory of Everything (PG-13)  5:15 p.m. | 8 p.m. | 10:30 p.m.
10 p.m. The Hudson Room | Details under Dec. 5

It’s a Wonderful Life: The 1946 Radio Play  7 p.m. | 9 p.m. | 10:30 p.m.
70 p.m. Sound Effects Show & Tell  8 p.m. | 10 p.m.
8:30 p.m., Torne Grie Café | Details under Dec. 5

Caravan of Thieves  8 p.m., Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Wednesday.

T. Jay  9:30 p.m. | 10 p.m. | 11:30 p.m.
3 p.m. | 5:30 p.m. | 8 p.m.
4 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 8 p.m.
7 p.m. | 9 p.m. | 10 p.m.
11 p.m.

The Billy Joel Experience  10 p.m. | 12 a.m.
7 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
445 Main St., Beacon | 845-463-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

The Taming of the Shrew with the Go-Go Pops in both a 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 — and there’s been a lot of growth.”

“The Theory of Everything” (PG-13) — “A great film in every sense!” — R. Reed Reed, NY Observer
FRIDAY 9:30 5:15 8:00
SAT 2:30 5:15 8:00
SUN 2:00 4:45
TUE & WED 7:30
THUR & FRI 7:30

The Story of Everything

Joe’s Fine Jewelry
Buying Gold, Silver, Diamonds, Coins, etc. Specializing in estate jewelry. We buy to resell, not to scrap.
171 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516
• Thursday & Friday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
• Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Joe Bokhour (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 contacts 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 Linda Sabin and costumes by Charlotte Palmer-Lane, will be performed on Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.; Dec. 19 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 20 at 4 p.m. 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.

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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 nation 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 react 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 FR 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 History at the University of Oklahoma. Speakers following, all veterans of the Storm King battle, are journalist, author and Riverkeeper founder Donald Keith Jones, former Congressman and Dean Emeritus of Pace University Gillian L. Eich, and Dean Emeritus of Pace University Vincent J. Phillips; not to mention the unfocused novelist-cum-court reporter (Daniel Kehl), the jury helps the pigs and wolf recount their tales. The reporter (Maggie Maxwell), newscaster (Edward Bauer) and town crier (Joia McKevelty) 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, Claire Rose, Kate Meiner, Jude Columb, May Columb, Nickolas Meiner, Lola Ritell and Erica Bauer. These young actors are led by Jay Gerber, Zach Shannon and Lorelei McCarthy as the lead lawyer先后的律师 (Fiona Shanahan), the Pig Who Was Not Eaten by the Wolf (Kat Bushman) and witness for the defendant, Merlin the Wolf (Sam Bates), and Bambi Deer (April Rose Ransom). With the help of her goofy and lovable bailiff (Charlie Keeghan) and round-nosed-circuit-court reporter (Daniel Phillips), not to mention the uncensored jury members (Alex Danilov, Raunaa Ka- poor), Kieran Walsh and Grace Vogel, the judge (Sofia Wally) 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 get to portray some favorite fairy tale and nursery rhyme characters. In a script written by Joseph Robinette, the Three Little Pigs (Abigail Platt, Andrew Nachamin and Anastasia Coop), and the Big Bad Wolf (Annette McKevelty) get to tell their side of the story in the courtroom of Wise O. Al (Noah Bingham).

Tickets at bostonpapertickets.com. Ticketing is not reserved.

Haldane Seeks Volunteers for Makerspace Classroom

Haldane School is seeking volunteers to help build a new Makerspace Classroom to support the school’s efforts to incorporate more hands-on projects and creativity to soar.

“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 projects and creativity to soar,” said Haldane’s Head of School, Hamilton Fish.

For more information, call 845-242-9390.
Vassar Ensemble Performs Peter and the Wolf Dec. 13

Vassar College’s Mahagonny Ensemble is performing Peter and the Wolf, Sergéi 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 se-nior Sam Plokon. This performance will also feature the Mahagonny Choir per-forming a collection of contemporary works by Qian, Takah, Rebi and stu-dent composers. The choir director is se-nior Julia Boscov -Ellen.

Photo courtesy of Vassar College

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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

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Intro to Bird Feeding at Hubbard Lodge Dec. 7

Putnam Highlands Audubon program for beginners

On Sunday, Dec. 7, at 30 a.m. at Hub-bard Lodge on Route 9 (just north of Route 301), the Putnam Highlands Audu-bon Society is hosting a program on set ting 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 So-ciety’s Queens Zoo, will introduce people who are new to bird feeding to the expe-rience. He will outline some of the con-siderations for setting up a feeder and offer suggestions on identification.

For more information about PHAS or the program go to putnamhighland -saubon.org.

Photo courtesy of Buster Levi Gallery

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The Mahagonny Ensemble was founded in 2000 with a performance of the Kurt Weill opera Mahagonny Songspiel, dedicated to promoting the creativity of instrumentalists, singers and compos-ers interested in performing and writ -ting contemporary classical music. The group’s goal is to give a voice to unique and where dialogue of the artistic ex -perience 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 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 cre-ation of the gallery, intended as a place where artists and viewers can interact, and where dialogue of the artistic ex-perience goes well beyond the price of a work.

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

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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 26 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 heated 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 Kitty and clawed off the shore into the breaking waves. They lost. But 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 other two boats in a tangle, unable to keep from being blown down on the wrong side of the mark.

Weal ahead of the two other boats but now missing an oar as a result of the fray, Robert C. Bickford headed toward the shore and, ignoring the second mark entirely, raced across the finish line. Meanwhile, BBBB continued along 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-diving, energized by the inconceivable 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, Kylie McDonald, Nolan Shea and Cooper Nugent. — David Hardy
Climate Change in Philipstown: The Impact on the Hudson River

By Pamela Doan

A 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 dire but the panelists information was strange as it sounds, but the panelists

The paper December 5, 2014

The Hudson River and Climate Change in Philipstown: The Impact on the Hudson River Nov. 25 at the Garrison Union Free School.

The panel’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 coastal flooding we’ve had in the past. We don’t need Superstorm Sands, 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.

Sasha 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 9,000 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.

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