



The Philipstown.info Paper

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Garrison Voters Approve Firefighter Pension Increase

GVFC aligns with other Philipstown fire departments

Residents of the Garrison Fire Protection District voted to approve a request by the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company (GVFC) for a change in its Length of Service Awards Plan (LOSAP) in a special referendum held Tuesday (Dec. 10). Ninety-nine votes were cast in favor of the change while 28 residents voted “no.” Sixteen votes were cast via absentee ballot with the remainder cast at the GVFC fire hall on Route 9.

The LOSAP program provides a pension benefit to volunteer firefighters when they reach retirement age. Tuesday’s “yes” vote will increase that benefit for GVFC firefighters from \$10 to \$20 per month for each year of service when a firefighter reaches retirement. At the new rate, GVFC firefighters will receive the same benefit that Cold Spring, North Highlands and Continental Village firefighters currently receive.

In an email to *The Paper*, GVFC Vice President Peter von Bergen thanked voters, “... for coming out during the questionable weather conditions to give the ... LOSAP program parity with the other three Philipstown [fire] departments and an opportunity to better attract and, especially, to retain volunteer firefighters.”

The referendum was held under the auspices of the Putnam County Board of Elections, which had four election inspectors on hand at the fire hall. Polls were open from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Putnam Cycling Classic Moves to Brewster

4 cycling options offered

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

After two runs based in Cold Spring, the Putnam Cycling Classic bicycle race will be centered in Brewster for 2014, although the main cycling route will again loop through Philipstown.

The May 10 event will feature four bicycling opportunities – two for experienced and competitive cyclists, as before – and two geared for (Continued on page 4)



Riders cluster together for the start of the 2013 race in Cold Spring. Photo by L.S. Armstrong



Nicholas Tamagna, above; performing in *Orfeo* with Opera Memphis, top right, and in *Akhnaten*, right Photos courtesy of Nicholas Tamagna



At Home with Handel

Countertenor Nicholas Tamagna returns to Cold Spring to sing Messiah

By Alison Rooney

One of four soloists performing in the Dec. 22 performances of Handel’s sacred oratorio *Messiah* at St. Mary’s (2 p.m. and 5 p.m., see brownpapertickets.com) will in essence be coming home for the holidays. Nicholas Tamagna, who spent a great deal of his youth in Philipstown, will return to Cold Spring for the occasion. Tamagna is a countertenor, a highly specialized vocal realm in which the falsetto is developed with a strength which brings a power to a male equivalent of a female range. The trademark of a countertenor, vocally, is agility, suiting a repertoire which flourished in the baroque period then lay nearly dormant until its rediscovery over the past 50 years with new music created for it.

Formerly a tenor, Tamagna shifted to countertenor after advice from a teacher about six years ago, and, after intensive (and continuing) training, has had a great deal of international success over the past five years, performing frequently in Germany, and placing well in a number of international competitions. *Philipstown.info/The Paper* spoke recently with Tamagna about the development of this unique career, his thoughts on *Messiah*, and his ties to this area.

How did you find your way to that vocal range?

I went to school and trained as a tenor, but the range was too much for me – I couldn’t sustain it in my chest voice. I was at wit’s end; I could never do artistically what I was feeling intellectually. I wasn’t getting work because I lacked the confidence in my work. I met a teacher, Alyssa

Grimaldi, after I finished getting my degree [at Manhattan School of Music], when she came to an opera I was appearing in as a tenor. She told me I was great on stage, had presence, but had technical issues. She invited me to come work with her. She is very intuitive about voices, very right about people. She came to the conclusion after just one lesson, that I was a countertenor. We went through all different things, from musical theater on. I tried one Handel piece, singing along with a recording, and it was very easy for me. I sang just this one aria, she looked at me, and it was like “wow, okay, that’s your voice.” Her husband even came out from another room and said, “whatever that was, that was *it!*”

The first year we met two or three times a week for three to four hour-long sessions without a break. With that work, suddenly, artistically I could express what I wanted, and only then did I have successful auditions, then got a manager.

What’s your description of the workings of a countertenor?

Most countertenors actually, if they use their normal voice, it’s a baritone. Baritones tend to have a certain larynx make-up: a more prominent Adam’s apple, the pharyngeal track is taller. Tenors often have shorter necks and are stockier. The anatomy can change what your abilities are. Falsetto uses the edges and more mass at the top, the upper quarter; that ability to create bigger sounds is a countertenor. Baritones have better falsettos than tenors, in general.

Only the last 50 or 60 years have we begun to under- (Continued on page 7)

Cold Spring Wins \$75,000 to Revamp Zoning

State grant promotes ‘smart growth’ policies

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Village of Cold Spring this week won \$75,000 in New York State grant funds to begin revamping its zoning code by – among other measures – increasing the stock of multi-family housing (in part to accommodate a projected 20 percent increase in population), streamlining the site-plan approval process for certain projects, and re-doing the Chestnut Street business corridor to cut dependence on cars.

State Sen. Terry Gipson announced the grant, given through the Regional Economic Development Awards program, in a statement Wednesday evening (Dec. 11).

Cold Spring’s prospective rezoning



Ripe for rezoning? Cold Spring as seen from Bull Hill

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

would complete a process launched with the drafting, and subsequent adoption (in 2012) of the village comprehensive plan and would reflect that plan as well as the Local Waterfront Revitalization Strategy, accepted by the state in 2011, and the pending, full-scale Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, whose approval by the state depends upon zoning changes.

According to the grant application the state evaluated before supplying the money, the envisioned rezoning would make Cold Spring “a model smart-growth community for Putnam County and the region.” The grant application states that the current zoning, adopted in 1967, fostered suburban-style development, not the type characteristic of a historic, self-sufficient village. The village’s consulting firm, Greenplan Inc., of Rhinebeck, prepared the application.

The application says the rezoning would result in the addition of 405 residents by 2050. As the population is now almost exactly 2,000 people, adding 405 residents represents an increase of 20 percent. To serve everyone, the application foresees reducing the percentage of single-family homes and increasing the percentage of multi-family homes in the village. Although single-family housing would continue to dominate, the application anticipates that it would decline from approximately (Continued on page 4)

Mouths to Feed

Romescan Holiday

By Celia Barbour

A few years ago, a little splotch of romesco sauce arrived on my plate as part of a dish I was served at Il Buco Alimentari e Vineria, a wonderful little restaurant on Great Jones Street in Manhattan. I don't remember what it accompanied — maybe shrimp, maybe lamb. It didn't matter. The sauce, really more of a paste, would have made anything taste good, even kohlrabi (as long as there wasn't too much kohlrabi).

I had eaten — and made — romesco before, and liked it very much. But this one was different. It had the kind of layered flavor that emerges in your mouth like a series of breathtaking, developing Polaroids and

makes you want, as soon as you've finished one bite, to go back and have another so as to experience the whole unfolding process again.

rag-tag pages is my whole big-feast repertoire: Recipes handwritten, photocopied from cookbooks, and cut from magazines; wine-bottle labels; notes on birthdays and dinner parties and what worked or didn't at each.

The romesco envelope was in good company there, and one of a dozen scrawled-on-a-scrap recipes — many of which are nothing more than lists of ingredients, with no quantities, no techniques, no directions.

Until now, the star of this scruffy group was my stuffing — a list of 19 ingredients on a sheet of early *Martha Stewart Living* note paper. It was jotted down nearly two decades ago by Susan Sugarman, an unforgettable cook who worked for many years in the test kitchen there. It is what my husband is referring to when, upon being asked what he wants for Thanksgiving, says, "Make that great stuffing."

Anyway, flipping through the book, I happened upon the envelope featuring the romesco ingredients, and, already anticipatorily fatigued by all the pumpkiny, earthy, bready, nutty, maple-y flavors of the impending feast, decided to make it to serve with my sweet potatoes, a pairing inspired by chef Suzanne Goin. It knocked the stuff-



Romesco Photos by C. Barbour



Recipe on bank envelope

I asked the waiter about it, why it was so good, and his eyes lit up like someone who had just been asked to describe his beloved. He said that it contained smoked paprika, chocolate peppers (a small, sweet, heirloom bell pepper) and piquillo peppers, plus New Mexico chiles and (aha!) Marcona almonds. Marcona almonds are fat, sweet, tender almonds that often are fried in olive oil and sprinkled with sea salt.

Like the almonds, romesco itself comes from Spain — the Catalonia region. Traditionally made with peppers or chiles, toasted nuts, bread, olive oil, and garlic, it has evolved into many variations, which can include vinegar, tomatoes, onions, fennel fronds, mint, and parsley. I am always interested in the little differences that send a more-or-less familiar dish into the stratosphere of deliciousness, so I eagerly wrote the Il Buco version down on a bank envelope. Back at home, I placed the envelope in my recipe book.

Last month, I pulled out that book, as I do before every holiday. Contained within its

ing right off its perch, and continued its victory dance long after the last of the turkey had been packed away in the freezer, the pecan bars devoured, and the mashed potatoes fried into mushy pancakes. For the past two weeks, I have been craving it daily — smearing a little on toasted-cheese sandwiches, roasted vegetables, meats, and over-easy eggs (this last an especially sublime combination, especially if you fry a slice of toast in a little olive oil to eat with it).

One night, engrossed in a phone call, I had nothing but romesco on crackers and a Manhattan, neat, for dinner. It wasn't quite as elegant as dining out in New York City perhaps, but at that moment, I couldn't have dreamed up a better between-the-holidays feast.

Romesco

Since chocolate peppers are out of season (and I've only ever seen them at the greenmarket), I made this with what I had on hand, namely jarred piquillo peppers and dried ancho and New Mexico chiles. You can substitute roasted bell peppers for the piquillo; roast them according to the directions in the 4/25/13 recipe here: philipstown.info/2013/04/25/mouths-to-feed-loaf-story/

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1/4 cup hazelnuts | 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika |
| 1/4 cup Marcona almonds | 1/2 cup tomato purée or 2 canned, peeled tomatoes |
| 2 slices Italian-style bread, toasted | juice of 1 lemon |
| 2 cloves garlic | 1/3 cup parsley leaves, chopped |
| 2 ancho chiles | 1 cup olive oil |
| 2 New Mexico chiles | salt and pepper to taste |
| 4 piquillo peppers | |

1. Preheat the oven to 350°. Spread the hazelnuts on a baking sheet and toast about 10 minutes, shaking the pan once, until golden brown. When cool, gather the nuts in a dish towel and rub off the skins. Place in the bowl of a food processor, along with the almonds, garlic, and toasted bread; pulse to a coarse paste.
2. Meanwhile, remove the stems and seeds from the chiles, and soak in warm water to soften, about 15 minutes. Remove from water.
3. Heat a large skillet over medium-high. Add 2 tablespoons of the olive oil, the chiles, peppers, tomatoes, and a sprinkling of salt, and sauté, mashing the vegetables with your spoon, until the tomato juices evaporate and a thick, coarse sauce forms, about 4 minutes. Add the mixture to the food processor along with the lemon and parsley, and turn the processor on. With the motor running, add the remaining olive oil in a drizzle until you have a smooth paste. Add salt and pepper, and more lemon juice, to taste.




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Village Receives Squeaky-clean Auditor’s Report

Signs at 9D intersection raise concern

By Michael Turton

For mere mortals, a clean bill of health is sure to produce a sigh of relief after the annual trip to the doctor. For municipalities, auditors play the role of doctor – at least when it comes to finances. The Village of Cold Spring received a clean bill of health from the Poughkeepsie-based firm of Sedore & Company in its most recent audit of the village books. The good news came at the Tuesday (Dec. 10) meeting of the Village Board. The “clean opinion” was announced to the board by James Letterio CPA, a partner in the firm. “We have no issue with the numbers in the audit,” Letterio said. “We didn’t come across anything we felt we’d have to report to you in the management letter,” a two-page summary of the audit’s findings. “You guys are a breath of fresh air,” said William Cochrane, a CPA with the firm who was also in attendance.

Later in the meeting, Village Accountant Ellen Mageean delivered more good news in her financial summary, reporting that six months into the current fiscal year, the village is running at about



Snow accumulation and plowing will affect the village budget.

Photo by M. Turton

\$15,000 under budget. The 2013-14 budget totals \$2,665,224. Mageean did strike one cautionary note. “There are some unquantifiables ... such as how much snow we’ll get,” she said. “Those variables can have an impact on the budget – you just don’t know. The village has budgeted \$15,000 for snow removal. A mild winter could produce a budget surplus – but a severe winter could result in just the opposite.

Intersection signs rankle some

Village Trustee Charles Hustis report-

ed that he has fielded complaints from a number of merchants and residents who are concerned over a growing collection of signs displayed at the corner of Chestnut and Main. “It looks horrible there,” Hustis said. The signs are on village property and are permitted under the village code – provided that individual signs don’t exceed 9 square feet in area and are not in place for more than 60 calendar days. Hustis said merchants were especially upset about “Shop Beacon” signs that have appeared. Village resident Kathleen Foley said that Building Inspector Bill Bujarski had removed the non-local signs and had indicated that the others are not a violation because they are temporary. Another resident, Mike Bowman, also questioned the legality of “1-800-JUNK” signs that have been attached to utility poles in the village. Trustee Matt Francisco suggested that the board confer with both Bujarski and Village Attorney Michael Liguori to clarify legal issues involved.

Grove repairs

Basic repairs will soon be made to The Grove, permitting tours of the historic building which has sat empty for years. The structure has fallen into disrepair and the village has issued a request for proposals (RFP) for the sale and development of the building and property. Kathleen Foley, speaking in her capacity as a member of the Historic District Review Board, told trustees that repairs to the porch and floor are needed and that work on some of the windows is needed to provide better light during the tours. Village Clerk Mary Saari said she has received one tour request to date. Tour participants will be required to sign a waiver. Barney Molloy, chairman of the Cold Spring Planning Board, suggested at the meeting that volunteers who work on the repairs also be required to sign the waiver. Foley said that it is important that repairs be made as soon as possible, before snow causes any further damage. The deadline for responses to the RFP is Feb. 18, 2014. The Grove sits atop the embankment behind The Nest daycare. Built in the 1850s and designed by noted architect Richard Upjohn, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was acquired by the village in 2003.

Deputy Mayor Bruce Campbell reported that he recently attended a meeting along with representatives from other area municipalities at which Putnam County officials explained their policy of not sharing local sales tax revenues. Campbell said that the primary rationale given is that the county prefers to give funds back in the form of services. He said that Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell and Meghan Taylor, president of the Putnam County Economic Development Corp. are both willing to come to a Village Board meeting to explain the policy in detail. Putnam is one of a handful of counties in New York state that does not share sales tax revenues.



Carolers bring classic sounds of the season to Main Street, above; Santa with baby Ava and mom Emily, right

Photos by Maggie Benmour



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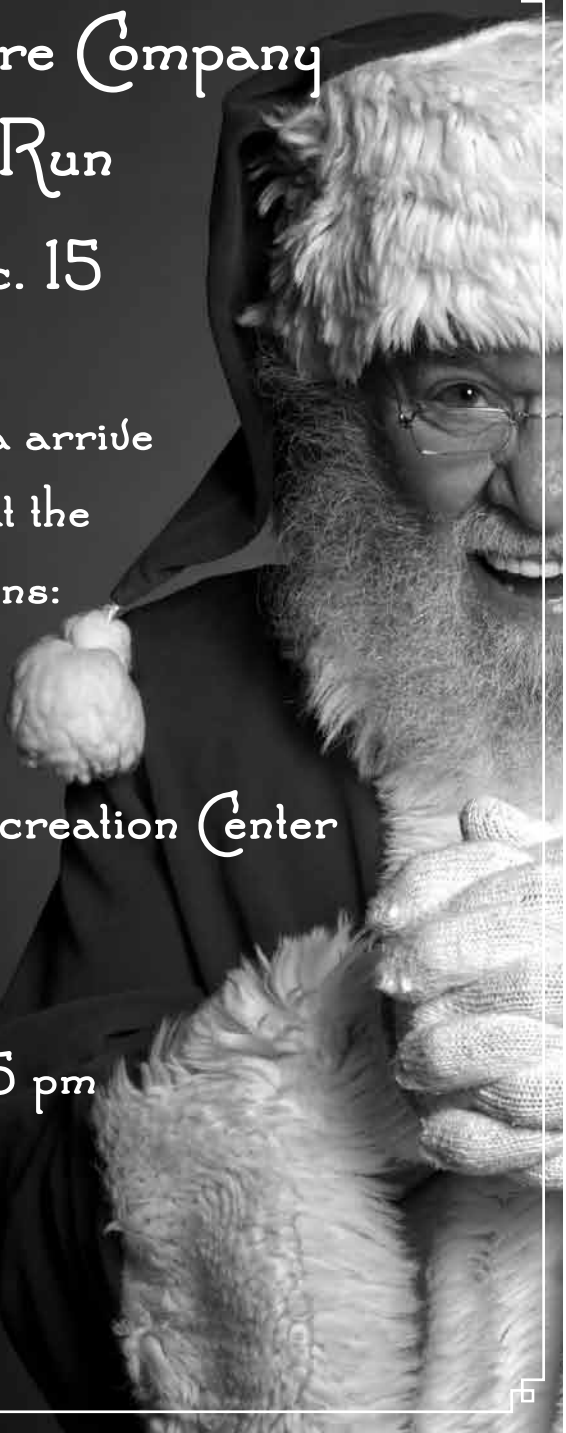


Garrison Fire Company Candy Cane Run Sunday, Dec. 15

Come see Santa arrive
on a fire truck at the
following locations:

Philipstown Recreation Center
11am - 11:45am

Papa John’s
12 noon - 12:45 pm



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Cold Spring Wins \$75,000 to Revamp Zoning *(from page 1)*

50 percent of overall stock to about 43 percent by the year 2050; conversely, multi-family housing would increase from being 30 percent of the mix to 40 percent.

In particular, the rezoning would focus on three areas: the old Butterfield Hospital property, currently the subject of controversial redevelopment efforts; the vacant former Marathon battery plant site, on Kemble Avenue, once the home to a factory whose toxic pollution prompted a major Superfund cleanup of the Hudson River; and the existing Chestnut Street commercial corridor, location of two suburban-style shopping centers, the Foodtown and Drug World strips and catering to “auto-oriented commercial uses.” All three, under the anticipated rezoning, would be redeveloped “as walkable, mixed-use areas,” as suggested in the comprehensive plan, LWRS, and LWRP. A mixed-use approach allows development serving more than one purpose, such as putting housing, offices and shops, and “live-work” structures, in a single complex or neighborhood.

The application sees the Butterfield tract as containing 55 multi-family units and three single-family homes, with 83 residents living there. [Under the present Butterfield concept plan, the 55 units would be condominiums for retiree-age residents.] The marathon site would get 10 single-family homes, 14 duplexes or two-family houses; and 50 multi-family units, accommodating 240 of the anticipated 405 new village residents. Another

82 additional residents would live in housing to be built as “infill” using space on existing lots around the village.

The rezoning would provide that the Chestnut Street, Marathon, and Butterfield districts “would have different area and bulk regulations, uses, and design standards, appropriate for each area, for streetscapes, site layout, architecture, parking, landscaping, etc., to ensure that development and redevelopment of these areas is consistent with historic village neighborhoods.” Likewise, each would offer “a variety of housing types and sizes, consistent with traditional village neighborhoods, to accommodate a variety of age and income groups and residential preferences.”

Moreover, the application states, enabling redevelopment of the three sites and infill parcels, the rezoning “will create construction and related jobs in the village for years and perhaps decades, supporting the overall health of the regional economy through a vibrant housing market. The [rezoning] project will allow for economic investment in an existing center with transit access because the current zoning of these three sites and other areas of the village is outmoded. The new zoning will allow for mixed-uses in a setting where residents will be able to walk to services and jobs, thereby promoting small business” and revitalizing the village in conformance with the waterfront revitalization strategy.

Among other points, the application

foresees the rezoning as:

- Streamlining zoning reviews for new development and redevelopment, such as “green” energy-efficient construction, that meets village goals
- Enhancing walkability by “prohibiting drive-in, drive-through, and auto-oriented uses” and building sidewalks and taking action to calm traffic flows
- Encouraging use of renewable energy, “including wind power, micro-hydroelectric, solar, and possibly tidal turbine power”
- Implementing parking regulations or standards that encourage sharing of parking spaces and give preferential parking to energy-efficient “green vehicles”
- Prohibiting outright demolition of existing structures to allow time for studying other options
- Revising the historic district standards to take into consideration solar panels.

On July 25, by a unanimous vote, the Cold Spring Village Board decided to ask Greenplan to prepare the application. The extent to which the board discussed the contents of the application before it was submitted is not clear.

The grant application predicts that the rezoning effort would get underway in January 2014 and end with adoption by the Village Board of a new zoning code in June 2015.

Putnam Cycling Classic Moves to Brewster *(from page 1)*

more leisurely riders – and be part of a weekend of fair-like activities in Brewster, according to event organizers. What’s billed as “the first-ever Putnam Pasta Picnic, a pasta and meatball feast,” likewise is part of the mix.

The event’s host, the Putnam County Tourism Office, announced the 2014 plans last week.

The 2013 race took place in Cold Spring May 5, the showcase of a Pedal into Spring weekend of festivities coordinated by the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Pedal into Spring involved street vendors, music, and Main Street activities in conjunction with the bicycle competition, which drew international-class racers and media attention as a stop in the UCI World Cycling Tour. But while many in the community, including businesses, regarded the race as beneficial, others complained that the Cycling Classic kept customers from Main Street shops and snarled local traffic. Critics voiced objections well before race day and in part echoed concerns raised when the first Cycling Classic, held in Cold Spring on Oct. 14, 2012, left some merchants feeling revenue-deprived.

Unlike the 2012 and 2013 races, the 2014 Putnam Cycling Classic will be held on a Saturday, the day before Mother’s Day, and planners are encouraging would-be participants and fans to make it part of family-oriented weekend outings.

Avid cyclists can choose either the 100-mile course, a timed competitive route, or a 62-mile version, “for intermediate level riders who want to continue to ride longer and further and challenge themselves with a few timed elements,” a Dec. 3 Tourism Office news release stated.

Those interested in more of a frolicsome than furious pace can join the Tour de Putnam, a revival of a previous amateur-oriented event, with 12-mile and 24-mile routes through the eastern end of Putnam County.

The 62-mile and 100-mile courses will come through Philipstown, so “we’ll definitely be in Cold Spring,” Ray Fusco, Putnam Cycling Classic event producer, told

Riders cross the 2013 finish line. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Philipstown.info on Friday (Dec. 6). Nonetheless, the race headquarters and other elements will be based in Brewster, which offers a lot of logistical advantages, he said.

Like Cold Spring, Brewster has train service through Metro-North, an important consideration in efforts to bring cyclists and other participants to the race site, but also has a wider Main Street and center-of-town configuration and ample parking, Fusco explained. An old town near the Connecticut border, it likewise is the focus of economic revival efforts and “there’s a lot of attention being placed on Brewster” from local through state levels, he noted. Moreover, it has years of practice in successful Founder’s Days, shutting down streets and holding a celebration in conjunction with a long-distance running race, Fusco added. “Brewster has an enviable track record,” he said. “We’re excited about learning from them how to do this.”

Brewster Mayor James Schoenig welcomed the bike race and everything associated with it. “Brewster is open for business. We are thrilled Tourism chose Brewster and we want to make it a great event,” he said, according to the Tourism Office news release.

Tourism Office Director Libby Pataki did not immediately respond to a request from *Philipstown.info* Monday afternoon

(Dec. 9) for comments on whether the controversy generated in Philipstown by the 2012 and 2013 races influenced the decision to move the 2014 race to Brewster.

While the race will start and finish in Brewster, she noted in the news release that “our four routes will encompass every town in our county, making this a truly comprehensive and beautiful event.”

Cyclists won’t get a free ride

According to the race website, the 100-mile race registration costs \$72, with the early-bird discount, and \$95 in later general admission entry; the 62-mile version is \$65 with the early-bird discount and \$85 otherwise. Adult registration fees for the Tour de Putnam 24-mile ride are \$38 with the early-bird discount and \$50 for general admission; for the 12-mile route the fees are \$27 and \$35, for early-bird and general admission, respectively. Riders age 16 and younger get a Tour de Putnam break: their charge is \$19 with the early-bird discount in the 24-mile ride and \$25 otherwise; and \$12 for the discounted early-bird rate and \$15 for later general admission in the 12-mile ride.

Pasta picnic prices are \$8 for adults, early-bird rate, and \$10, regular. The youth rate is \$5, with the early-bird discount and \$6 otherwise.

The Cycling Classic website provides more details at putnamcycling.com.

Fierce and Female

Haldane PTA helps change the face of leadership

By Alison Rooney

Young people need skills and tools to help navigate life, and the Girls Leadership Institute (GLI) teaches girls to know who they are, and what they believe to initiate changes in the world.

Asked why the Haldane PTA felt there was a need for them to sponsor a workshop series where middle school girls could learn how to resolve conflict and improve communication between each other, PTA President Lourdes Laifer said immediately “I would be surprised if any mother of a daughter that age couldn’t answer that question.” With a tagline of “Be Who You Are. Say What You Mean,” this program for sixth and seventh grade girls aims to provide them with the tools to feel comfortable doing just that. The program, conducted by the nonprofit GLI consists of four two-hour, once-a-week sessions attended by a girl and one of her parents, facilitated by a GLI instructor.

“Girls don’t often have the tools to navigate through all the ‘girl drama,’ which seems to peak in middle school,” says Laifer. “Even as early as kindergarten or first grade there can be inclusive/exclusive behavior.” The PTA Executive Committee thought there was a need – despite the character education program already in place at Haldane – and that a gap could be filled with this GLI program, targeted specifically at girls. GLI is a 10-year-old national nonprofit dedicated to “girl culture.” Defining leadership as “a girl’s ability to know how she feels, say what she needs, and respond courageously to her mistakes,” the aim is to have girls feel more confident and resilient after participating. GLI itself stemmed from two prominent books, *Odd Girl Out* and *The Curse of the Good Girl*, both written by GLI co-founder Rachel Simmons prior to its founding. According to GLI’s Amie Herman, “It’s our belief that the workshops have an immediate and powerful

impact with middle school girls. They help give girls (and their parents) tools and a language to be more authentic in their positive role modeling in school during some challenging transitional years.”

Karen Doyle, the PTA’s middle school vice president hopes for the same: “Having this program at Haldane provides a wonderful opportunity for girls in our local community to attain valuable skills in finding their internal voice, knowing how to listen to that voice and learning how to use that voice to assert themselves in a positive way in relationships, academic settings and any other activity they may be involved in. Haldane has been working very hard at implementing a character education and I think this program will complement those efforts by providing some detailed guidance to the individual student on how to personally contribute to the school’s character vision. I think it would be wonderful to bring a similar program to the community for boys and their parents, too.”

The workshop sessions are titled “Dealing with Difficult Friends,” “Emotional Intelligence,” “Making Mistakes and Not So Funny Jokes,” and “Four Steps for Healthy Conflict.” Laifer sees the outcome as hopefully not only addressing the problems, but also as an “opportunity for growth and change. On their own women and girls don’t automatically have the tools to navigate through the difficult issues: ignoring, pretending behind your back – the things that take place among girls. Girls’ relationships aren’t awful, but sometimes patterns develop.”

Laifer cited an example involving a child she knew: “This girl, once very confident, was placed in a class where she didn’t know anyone, and she experienced girls playing the mean card at recess, being catty, and all year long she felt beaten down because she was the outsider. Then there are the girls who ‘include’ other girls by saying ‘you can’t be friends with that one.’ We want to shine a light on how this happens and why it doesn’t need to happen. Empathy, the golden rule, simple things, but not always accessible to girls ... this will give girls a way forward that’s

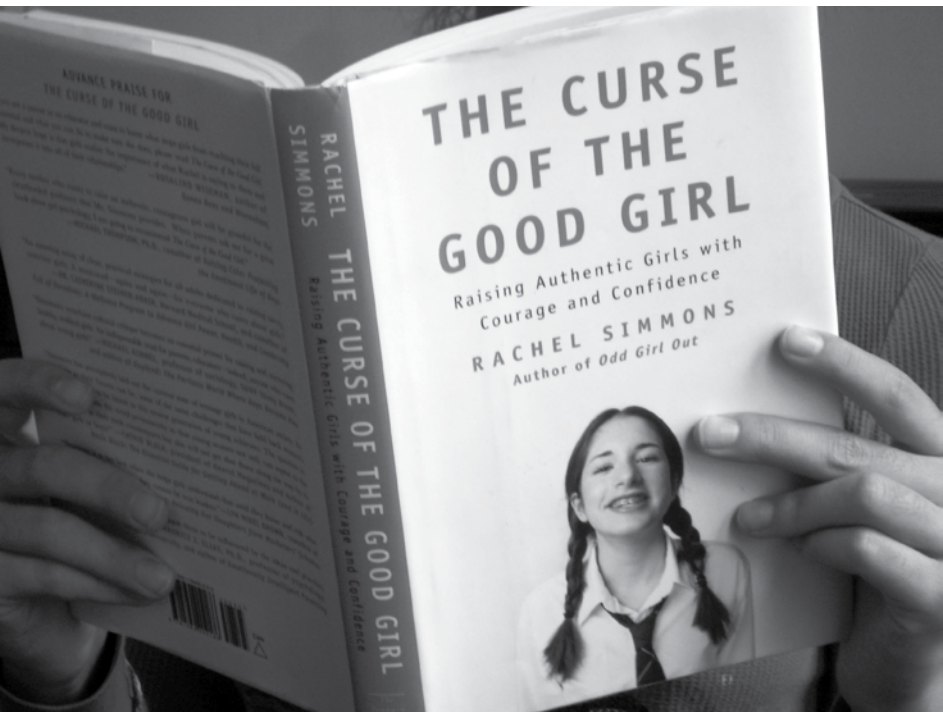


Image courtesy of Haldane PTA

different. It’s very confusing for girls to know how to react. The default is ‘What’s wrong with me?’ but it’s most often about the other person’s agenda, and we want to give girls the tools to understand that.”

Herman feels that the structure of the GLI workshops, with parent participating with child, allows for “a great platform to be set for dialogue about the challenges that girls are facing at school, and also [gives them] tools and skills which can be practiced and reinforced at home in a ‘safe’ setting.”

The sessions will take place at Haldane from 7 to 9 p.m. on four Tuesdays in March, beginning March 4, and cost \$265 per adult/girl pair. Scholarships are available. There is no cost to the school to host the workshop, and the workshops are open to the public, not just those attending Haldane. Families register, pay and apply for scholarships through GLI, girlsleadershipinstitute.org/content/new-jersey-2013-2014-workshops. The PTA of-

fers support by publicizing and is doing so now to give Philipstown families the first chance to enroll; registration is open now. There is a minimum of 12 pairs needed for the program to run, and a maximum of 15. If this pilot program is successful, the PTA hopes to bring it in for other ages, in workshops tailored appropriately.

One parent who will attend with her daughter is Beth Shanahan, PTA recording secretary.

“As she heads into the ‘tween’ years,” Shanahan says, “I think attending the GLI sessions with my daughter will be a great way to begin an ongoing dialogue with her about some of the challenges she may face. I also think it will be an educational experience for both of us, and I am looking forward to sharing this opportunity with her.” Laifer says, “A part of the PTA’s mission is to provide enriching experiences for students and their families, and with this they can practice it together.”

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The Paper will collect high-resolution, color photos from local photographers of local holiday celebrations, preferably pictures taken this year. The best of the photos (in our opinion) will be featured in The Paper on January 3. Limit: two photos per person.

Please retitle the image with your name and photo location, for example:
JohnDoe-ColdSpringDock.jpg.

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A Conversation with Grey Zeien

By Michael Turton

Grey Zeien is a familiar face in the Cold Spring area, having operated his business, Grey Printing, at 37 Chestnut St., since 1999. He is also well known as an artist and has tried his hand at acting. *The Paper's* Michael Turton recently spoke with Grey about the various "hats" that he wears, what inspires his art, how art and business intersect — and how he ended up pursuing both — and even the origin of his name. Responses have been abbreviated.

The Paper:

Where did you grow up?

Grey Zeien: All over the place. Connecticut. Massachusetts. West Germany. My father was an international businessman.

The Paper:

Where did you attend college?

Grey: I studied Fine Arts at Cornell then moved to New York City to become a famous artist — until I realized I had to buy groceries.

The Paper: How did you get into the printing business?

Grey: I worked as a graphic artist at *The Daily News* — pasting up the paper at midnight. I then got a job at an ad agency and eventually took that over.

We moved to Cold Spring and in 1993 I took a second-floor office at 71 Main St., next to The Pig Hill Inn. I hired Ruth Eisenhower. We had a little sign that said "Copy Cats" and we just did photocopying and faxes. We moved to our current location in 1999.

The Paper: What inspires your art? What media do you work in?

Grey: I don't really have an answer. What inspires me is the everyday — things that most people pass by and don't pay attention to. I work in all media — painting, sculpture and most recently "found objects" — things I collected over the years. They were the basis for a show called *Stuff and Nonsense* that just finished in Beacon.



Grey Zein's mixed media *Hoopla*

Photo courtesy of the artist

The Paper: In terms of your art, what has been most satisfying?

Grey: The recent show was really gratifying. I've been collecting these assemblages for 25 to 30 years and just decided one day to create a show. It's stuff — there's no name for it. People have been so responsive — I've never had so many compliments.

The Paper: Do you find it ironic that a large part

of your business involves copying things in various forms, whereas your art is all original?

Grey: I think the art is a reaction to the business. The business is entirely results oriented. The art is all about the process.

The Paper: Do the two endeavors in-

fluence each other — or are they totally separate?

Grey: They are complete polar opposites. Approach and results. But I couldn't do one without the other.

The Paper: Do you still do some acting?

Grey: I was one of the founders of The Depot Theatre when it opened — but I don't act anymore. I got tired of hyperventilating! Once the words started to roll I was fine ... but not the 30 minutes leading up to it. And there are too many people more talented than me.

The Paper: What is the last book you read for fun?

Grey: I've been reading a lot of Jo Nesbo — Nordic crime dramas. The last one was *Phantom*.

The Paper: A while ago you looked into producing custom-made wallpaper at Grey Printing — with customers providing their own unique designs. Were you surprised there was no interest in that?

Grey: I learned — or relearned again — that it's almost impossible to create a market for something. Most people are afraid to trust themselves. I didn't get one call.

The Paper: Are you looking into 3-D printing? What do you think of it?

Grey: I'm reading a lot about it. Again — it's creating a new market. It's amazing what you can do with it but I haven't had one request. It's becoming affordable but you have to watch your pennies in this business.

The Paper: What's on your favorite pizza?

Grey: Anchovies — of course!

The Paper: What's with that derby you wear sometimes? Is it for comfort or is it a fashion statement?

Grey: It's for comfort. I own about 40 hats from around the world. I've always worn a hat.

The Paper: What's one skill you don't have that you'd like to develop?

Grey: To play a musical instrument. I would have been a great rock 'n' roll star.

The Paper: If you could expand in one area, would you choose art or business?

Grey: In the short term I'd expand the business; in the long term I'd expand my art.

The Paper: How do you describe your



Grey Zeien

Photo by M. Turton

artistic style?

Grey: Eclectic

The Paper: Is there an artist you admire most?

Grey: My all-time favorite was Paul Klee, a Swiss artist in the early 1900s. He was eclectic. He made works like no one before and no one since. Some were super realistic etchings, some were abstract. You could tell he was doing it for himself. Very impressive — especially in this day and age.

The Paper: Are you ever completely satisfied with a work when you finish it?

Grey: I have to quote Matisse to answer that. "No painting is ever finished — merely abandoned."

The Paper: When you were named ... did it have anything to do with the author Zane Grey, whose name you bear in reverse — phonetically at least?

Grey: My parents deny it. But the most popular TV show the year I was born was *Zane Grey Theatre* — and my dad read all his books.

The Paper: What do you do to relax?

Grey: My wife says I never relax. I'm not good at sitting around. I've never sat down to watch a football game. I pretty much have to be doing stuff — but I've never been bored.

The Paper: What's your favorite thing to do now that you used to do as a kid?

Grey: I was always drawing as a kid. And I'm still doing it now.

The Paper: What was your first real job as a teenager — where you actually earned a paycheck?

Grey: I was an assistant gardener at a hotel in Germany when I was 13. I couldn't understand a word the gardener said — he spoke only German.

The Paper: What's one thing you remember about Germany?

Grey: If you were old enough to see over the bar they'd serve you a beer.

The Paper: If you could take a whole year off — what would you most want to do?

Grey: Travel. My wife and I travel as much as we can. I'd probably just hang out in southern Europe. And Morocco is one place I'd like to go ... and immerse myself in that culture.

The Paper: What time in the morning do you consider to be sleeping in? 9?

Grey: 7:30. I'm awake at 4:30 ... then doze off and on.

The Paper: Why does the sign at Grey Printing say "Ruth is not in" instead of "Grey is not in?"

Grey: People used to constantly walk in — at least two a day — asking "Is Ruth here?" She's been with me since day two.

The Paper: If you could play the lead role in any movie, what would you choose?

Grey: Batman

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The Calendar



A portion of the original score of Handel's *Messiah* Image courtesy of the British Library

Dashon Burton

Baritone Dashon Burton recently brought home a 2nd prize (no 1st prizes awarded) from the 2012 ARD International Music Competition in Munich, plus the first prize in Oratorio from the 49th International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands. These awards follow his First Place wins last spring in both the 2012 Oratorio Society of New York Competition and the Bach Choir of Bethlehem's Competition for Young American Singers.



Dashon Burton Image courtesy of the artist

The 2013-2014 season will find him making his debut with the Cleveland Orchestra in Janacek's *The Cunning Little Vixen* led by Franz Welser-Möst; returning to the Charlotte Symphony for the *St. Matthew Passion* which he also sings on tour in the Netherlands; debuting with Boston's Handel & Haydn Society in Handel's *Samson*; and returning to Carnegie Hall twice with the Oratorio Society of New York for Handel's *Messiah*, as well as Arvo Pärt's *Passion* with (Continued on page 12)

At Home with Handel: Nicholas Tamagna (from page 1)

stand what's going on. Some teachers still shy away from it — they don't know what to do with it. Countertenor singing in male voice is about not putting pressure on the voice, there's a heady quality to it — if every male singer worked with it they'd learn a lot.

Was it intimidating or liberating to finally peg yourself as something so specific?

It was extremely liberating for me. The repertoire is mostly Baroque; after Mozart's time not a lot was written for male voices in that range. I had already been interested in pre-Mozartian music, had done a lot of earlier music choral work. Now there's a whole movement — everyone is into early music again — it

Other Featured *Messiah* Soloists

Steven Brennfleck

Tenor Steven Brennfleck, has received recognition from some of the country's top vocal competitions: The American Bach Society Vocal Competition (Honorable Mention '12), Classical Singer Magazine's *AudComps* (2nd Place '08), the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (District Winner '06, '09, and '10), and the Mildred Miller International Voice Competition (Honorable Mention '13). His operatic credits include Laurie in Adamo's *Little Women*, Dr. Binch in Aldridge's *Elmer Gantry*, El Remendado in *Carmen*, Cégeste in Glass' *Orphée*, Beppe in *I Pagliacci*, Testo in Monteverdi's *Il Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda*, Don Curzio in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*, Parpignol in *La Bohème*, Pang in *Turandot*, and Gonsalve in Ravel's *L'Heure Espagnole* with companies including the Caramoor Festival, Glimmer Festival, (To page 12)



Steven Brennfleck Image courtesy of the artist



Gabriela Mikova File photo

Gabriela Mikova

Soprano Gabriela Mikova is a graduate of the Janacek Conservatory in Ostrava, Czech Republic, where she performed her senior concert with the Janacek Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Georg Kughi. She has also performed Leonard Bernstein's Mass with the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Milan Machek, concerts with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Teplice under (Continued on page 12)

we're quiet and we listen, but then, outside of the court, there was much more talking and listening just to the parts you wanted to hear. Baroque music is full of tricks, ornaments, filigree. It took you out of your daily life. Today they can be seen as frivolous and frilly, but spectacular in the truest sense.

Would it have been better for you had you discovered you were a countertenor sooner?

No. Sometimes the struggle is what you need to give you that hunger. I have a different appreciation for it now that I've had to work for it. I've also honed other skills: languages, reading about vocal pedagogy, other things, because I cycled through so many voice types. It has (Continued on page 14)



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845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

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11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission for Beacon residents | 1 p.m. Public tour
2 p.m. Anna Mecugni on Alighiero e Boetti
3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

Reflectionist Art Exhibit
1 - 4 p.m. Arts on the Lake | 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes | 845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Holiday Group Show (Reception)
5 - 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Gallery Show Openings

smallWORKS & Andy Cunningham
5 - 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Maurice Perdreau: Inaugural Exhibit
6 - 8 p.m. Back Room Gallery
475 Main St., Beacon | 845-838-1838

Group Show: Forgotten Dreams
6 - 8 p.m. Theo Ganz Studio | 149 Main St., Beacon | 917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com

Group Show: Fresh Prints
6 - 9 p.m. Dream in Plastic | 177 Main St., Beacon | 845-632-3383 | dreaminplastic.com

Group Show: Gift Wrapped
6 - 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 163 Main St., Beacon
212-255-2505 | shop.cluttermagazine.com

Group Show: Together for the Holidays
6 - 9 p.m. Art Works! Gallery
329 Main St., Beacon | 845-265-9410

Mary Anne Erickson: Vanishing Roadside
6 - 9 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass | 162 Main St., Beacon | 845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com

Juried Exhibition: Saints and Sinners
6 - 9 p.m. bau Gallery | 506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Theater & Film

Winter Tidings Performance
11 a.m. Dance Beacon | 177 Teller Ave., Beacon
845-831-1870 | dancebeacon.com

Mariinsky Theatre: The Nutcracker (Film)
Noon. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

A Christmas Carol (Dinner Theatre)
12:30 & 6:30 p.m. Hudson House River Inn
2 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-9355 | hudsonhouseinn.com

Letters To and From Soldiers (Reading)
1 p.m. Purple Heart Hall of Honor
374 Temple Hill Road, New Windsor
845-561-1765 | thepurpleheart.com

The Met Live in HD: Guiseppe Verdi’s Falstaff
1 p.m. Ulster Performing Arts Center
See details under Friday.

Philipstown Depot Theatre
1 p.m. *Treasure Island II: What Happened Next* (Reading) | 3 & 6 p.m. *Treasure Island* (Youth Players) | See details under Friday.

New Paltz Ballet Theatre: The Nutcracker
2 & 7:30 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie | 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

The Extremists
3 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

The Little Freedom Church (Documentary) with Q&A
6:30 p.m. Fovea Exhibitions | 143 Main St., Beacon | 917-930-0034 | foveaexhibitions.org

A Christmas Carol
7 p.m. St. Mary’s Church | Details under Friday

The Extremists
7 p.m. Beacon Institute | Details under Friday

The Shop Around the Corner (1940)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | coldspringfilm.org

Music

Horns a Plenty
4:30 p.m. Kunsthalle Beacon | 211 Fishkill Ave., Beacon | kubeny.com

Come On, Beacon. Let’s Dance!
8 - 10 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

A Very Gypsy Christmas with Doug Munro
8 p.m. Bean Runner Café | Details under Friday

Crossroads Band
8 p.m. Whistling Willie’s
See details under Friday.

The Garland Jeffreys Band
8:30 p.m. Town Crier Café
See details under Friday.

Carla Springer & the Nomads
9 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St., Beacon | 845-765-0885

Meetings & Lectures

Overeaters Anonymous
8:30 a.m. Graymoor | 1350 Route 9, Garrison
917-716-2488 | oa.org

Centering Prayer Advent Silent Retreat
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Graymoor | 1350 Route 9, Garrison | 914-330-7611 | graymoorcenter.org

Ham Radio Club Holiday Party
5 - 7 p.m. Wappinger Buffet | 1488 Route 9, Wappingers Falls | 914-582-3744 | qsysociety.org

Melava Malka (Let Us Sing)
7 p.m. 59 Dinan St., Beacon
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

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The Calendar *(from page 9)*

Holiday Fair 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Putnam Valley Grange See details under Saturday.
Christmas Pageant 10:30 a.m. First Presbyterian Church 10 Academy St., Cold Spring 845-265-3220 presbychurchcoldspring.org
Beacon Farmers' Market 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center Long Dock Drive, Beacon 845-234-9325 thebeaconfarmersmarket.com
Holiday Craft Invitational Show & Sale Noon - 5 p.m. Putnam Arts Council See details under Friday.
Santa Claus Tour Noon - 4 p.m. See <i>philipstown.info</i>
Holiday Boutique 1 - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Saturday.
Gingerbread House Workshop 4 - 7 p.m. Cup and Saucer 165 Main St., Beacon gingerbreadworkshop2.eventbrite.com

Candlelight Tours 4 - 7 p.m. Tours 5 p.m. Music and carols Mount Gulian Historic Site 145 Sterling St., Beacon 845-831-8172 mountgulian.org
Journey To The Manger 5 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm Details under Saturday
Art & Design
Drop-In Art Sessions 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Drawing and Painting from Life (Long Pose) 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Printmaking Club 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Basic Etching Garrison Art Center See details under Saturday.
Free Admission for Beacon Residents 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Dia:Beacon See details under Saturday.
Group Show: Together for the Holidays 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Art Works! Gallery See details under Saturday.
Theater & Film
Treasure Island II: What Happened Next (Reading) 2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Saturday.

Garrison Art Center Holds First Small Works Juried Exhibition
Recent Paintings *by Andy Cunningham also opens Dec. 14*

A small works juried exhibition, the first of its kind there, opens Saturday, Dec. 14, at Garrison Art Center, accompanied by another show, *Recent Paintings* by Andy Cunningham. Both exhibits run through Jan. 5. An opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 14. Sacramento artist Cunningham provides a whimsical and unique take on modern painting. Cunningham was born in New York and now lives and teaches drawing in Sacramento, Calif. He is a 1996 graduate of Hunter College, where he received an MFA for combined media. “My work is about painting and color,” Cunningham states. “It is about space, the grid, line, mass, shape, and composition. The residue of working in a speedy fashion has always been an integral part of my work. I like to see the artist ‘hand’—it speaks of history and its connection to the process.” SmallWorks 2D, 3D, 4D the first of



Work by Andy Cunningham Image courtesy of Garrison Art Center

annually-planned juried small works shows, resulted in 56 works chosen from a large pool of very strong submissions. This year’s jurors included noted artists Matt Frieburghaus, Grace Knowlton and Don Nice. They named ‘Best Of’ in the three categories. Best 2D work is *View from Harriet’s Window* by Lisa Burger-Lentz; Best 3D work is *Hudson River Bundle* by Stacey Farley; Best 4D work is an untitled digital video by Kate Elden. Numerous honorable mentions were also awarded. Visit garrisonartcenter.org.

A Christmas Carol 3 p.m. Eisenhower Hall Theatre 655 Ruger Road, West Point 845-938-4159 ikehall.com
It’s a Wonderful Life (1946) 3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St., Peekskill 914-739-0039 paramounthudsonvalley.com
New Paltz Ballet Theatre: The Nutcracker 3 p.m. Bardavon See details under Saturday.

Music
Oratorio de Noel, Opus 12 4 p.m. St. Philip’s Church 1101 Route 9D, Garrison 845-424-3571 stphilipshighlands.org
Songwriter’s Showcase 7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café See details under Friday.

(To next page)

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Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com
For more information: 845.440.8290

All costs for these performances have been donated in the spirit of the season. All tickets and contributions will be 100% tax deductible.

The Calendar *(from page 10)*

Meetings & Lectures

Beacon Hebrew Alliance Book Club:

City of Shadows

10 a.m. Bank Square Coffee
129 Main St., Beacon
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Brave New Gita Class

4 p.m. Beacon Yoga Center | 464 Main St., Beacon | 347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

Religious Services

See philipstown.info/churches for

Sunday listings

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library Events

9:30 a.m. Literacy Connections Class
3 - 5 p.m. Drop-in Homework Center (grades 1-8)
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 x103 | beaconlibrary.org

Indoor Tot Lot

Noon - 2 p.m. Indoor Tot Lot
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Magic Tree House Book Club

3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Neuro Support Group

3 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
845-279-5711 x2482 | health-quest.org

Meditation for Women with Cancer

6 p.m. Mahopac Public Library | 668 Route 6, Mahopac | 914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Basketball at Philipstown Rec

6:15 p.m. Youth Skills/Drills (grades 3-8)
7:30 p.m. Men's Pick-up
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Art & Design

Drop-In Drawing & Painting from Life (Short Pose)

9:30 a.m. Garrison Art Center | Details under Sunday

Music

MLK Jr. Day March Song Rehearsal

6 p.m. Springfield Baptist Church
8 Church St., Beacon | Led by Pete Seeger

Community Chorus

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

Open Mic Night

7 p.m. Towne Crier Café | See details under Friday.

Beginning Fiddle, Cello & Mandolin

7:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Harmolodic Monk (Jazz)

8 p.m. The New Quinn's | 330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinn'sbeacon.com

Meetings & Lectures

Village Court

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

Know Your Rights & the Law Re: Children with Special Needs

6:30 p.m. Putnam Independent Living Services
1961 Route 6, Carmel
845-228-7457 x1116 | putnamils.org

Beacon City Council

7 p.m. 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

Beacon School Board

7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconcitYK12.org

Board Game Night

7 p.m. Cup and Saucer | 165 Main St., Beacon
meetup.com/Beacon-Board-not-Bored

Emergency Preparedness Committee

7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Nelsonville Board of Trustees (Scheduled)

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Kids & Community

Philipstown Community Center

9 - 11 a.m. & Noon- 2 p.m. Indoor Tot Lot
6:30 p.m. Foot in Mouth Players (ages 12-19)
See details under Monday.

Senior Day Center

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mother Lurana House
166 Old West Point Road East, Garrison
845-424-3184 | graymoorcenter.org

Howland Public Library Events

10 a.m. Knitting Club | 10:30 a.m. Baby & Me (0-2) | 3 - 5 p.m. Drop-in Homework Center
See details under Monday.

Holiday Craft Invitational Show & Sale

Noon - 5 p.m. Putnam Arts Council
See details under Friday.

Kids Craft Hour

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

Cooking Class: Seafood Feasts

6 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Health & Fitness

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Support Connection
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Theater & Film

Short Term 12 (Film) with Q&A

7:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon | beaconfilmsociety.org

Meetings & Lectures

Highland Garden Club

Noon. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Beacon Zoning Board of Appeals (Scheduled)

7 p.m. 1 Municipal Center, Beacon
cityofbeacon.org

Digital Salon

7 p.m. Beahive Beacon | 291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Haldane School Board

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

Nelsonville Planning Board (Scheduled)

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

Dutchess County Genealogical Society

7:30 p.m. LDS Church
204 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie
dcgs-gen.org/meetings.htm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library

9:45 a.m. Come & Play (ages 0-3)
10:30 a.m. Toddler Tales (ages 2-3)
3 - 5 p.m. Drop-in Homework Center
See details under Monday.

Howland Cultural Center

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Chess Club
4 p.m. Rivertown Kids Chorus (ages 9-13)
See details under Monday.

Mahjong Open Play

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. VFW Hall
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill

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

Desmond-Fish Library

10:15 a.m. Music and Movement for Toddlers
1:30 p.m. Pre-school Story Hour
See details under Tuesday.

Indoor Tot Lot

Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Monday.

Holiday Craft Invitational Show & Sale

Noon - 5 p.m. Putnam Arts Council
See details under Friday.

Cooking Class: Heart Healthy Christmas

Recipes

5 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
See details under Tuesday.

High School Winter Concert

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

Health & Fitness

Hudson Valley Hospital Center

11 a.m. Breastfeeding Support Group
6 p.m. Weight Loss Surgery Seminar
See details under Saturday.

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center
See details under Monday.

Life Support Group

7:30 p.m. St. Philip's Church | 1100 Route 9D, Garrison | 845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Music

Open Mic Night

7 p.m. Towne Crier Café
See details under Friday.

People's Choir with Cat Guthrie

7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory | 12 Hanna Lane, Beacon | 845-202-3555 | beaconnmusicfactory.com

Rock Band Boot Camp Performance: Stop Making Sense

8 p.m. Dogwood | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Planning Board

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

Library Board Meeting

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

Putnam and Beyond Book Club:

A Redbird Christmas

7 p.m. Bangkok Spice | 1161 E. Main St., Shrub Oak | meetup.com/P-B-B-C

Garrison School Board

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Kids & Community

Butterfield Library Events

8:30 a.m. Qi Gong/Tai Chi
10:30 a.m. Bouncing Babies
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Indoor Tot Lot

9 -11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Community Center | See details under Monday.

Howland Public Library

10 a.m. Brain Games for Adults
10:30 a.m. Pre-K Story Time (ages 3-5)
3:45 p.m. Lego Club and Block Party
See details under Monday.

Senior Day Center

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mother Lurana House
See details under Tuesday.

Holiday Craft Invitational Show & Sale

Noon - 5 p.m. Putnam Arts Council
See details under Friday.

Meat & Egg Store Open

3 - 6 p.m. Glynwood Farm (Dairy)
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Sports

Haldane vs. Bronxville (Boys' Basketball)

6 p.m. Haldane School | 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring | 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Health & Fitness

Living with Cancer

6 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
See details under Saturday.

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center
See details under Monday.

Women's Prenatal/Postpartum

Discussion Group

7 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital Center
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-736-7700 | northeastdoulas.com

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
See details under Monday.

Art & Design

Garrison Art Center

10:30 a.m. Discover Abstract Art
6 p.m. Jewelry Making Class | Details under Sunday

Music

Piano Bar Night

7 - 11 p.m. Bear Mountain Inn
55 Hessian Drive, Highland Falls
845-786-2731 | visitbearmountain.com

Miwi La Lupa

8:30 p.m. Dogwood | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Haldane PTA (Bylaws Vote)

3:30 p.m. Haldane School | 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring | 845-265-9254 | haldanepTA.org

Astronomy Night

6:30 p.m. Planetarium show
7:30 p.m. Telescope observation
Kirk Planetarium, SUNY New Paltz
1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz
845-257-1110 | newpaltz.edu/planetarium

Philipstown Planning Board

7:30 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Philipstown Freemasons

8 p.m. Masonic Lodge | 18 Secor St., Nelsonville
845-265-2244 | philipstown236fam.org

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous | Visit philipstown.info/aa



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Dashon Burton (from page 7)

Ensemble ACJW.

Among his highlights in the 2012-2013 season, Burton sang performances of Handel's *Messiah* with Philharmonia Baroque, Maasaki Suzuki conducting; Beethoven's *Symphony no. 9* with the Charlotte Symphony; Bach's *St. John Passion* with Le Concert Lorrain in Copenhagen and Budapest with Christoph Prégardien; and the title role in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Bach Choir of Bethlehem. Burton appears frequently with Trinity Church Wall Street and music director Julian Wachner, with whom he has sung Bach's *St. John Passion* and Handel's *Messiah* at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. He also sang the *Fauré Requiem* in a Trinity Wall Street 9/11 Memorial Concert and, with the Yale Schola Cantorum, the *St. Matthew Passion* with Maasaki Suzuki in New York and Rome.

Burton began his professional studies at Case Western Reserve University and graduated from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. Immediately upon graduation, he was invited to join Cantus, a professional men's classical vocal ensemble based in Minneapolis. After his tenure with Cantus ended in 2009, Burton entered Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music, where he studied vocal literature. He received his Master of Music degree in 2011.

In addition to his work in early music, Burton is an avid performer of new music. He is a founding member of Roomful of Teeth, an ensemble devoted to new compositions using the fullest possible range of vocal techniques.

Gabriela Mikova (from page 7)

the direction of both Tomas Koutnik and Charles O. Munroe, and a concert tour through Spain, Portugal, Germany, Belgium and Austria with the Municipal Theatre of Brno. She has also sung at Ostrava's Festival of Contemporary Music and at the Janackovy Hukvaldy Festival. Mikova has performed as soloist at the Jiri Myron Theatre in Ostrava, the Moravian Theatre of Olomouc, and the Municipal Theatre of Brno, and for six years was engaged as soloist with the J.K. Tyl Theatre in Plzen.

Locally she has performed in solo concerts at the Chapel Restoration and at Boscobel, and appeared last winter in John Gay's *The Beggars' Opera* at the Depot Theatre.

Steven Brennfleck (from page 7)

merglass Opera, New York Lyric Opera Theatre, Portland Opera, Spoleto Festival USA, The Tanglewood Festival, and the Westminster Opera Theatre.

During the 2012-13 season, Brennfleck was among the first singers chosen as a Fellow for the Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar under the direction of Stephanie Blythe. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in Handel's *Messiah* with The Masterwork Chorus & Orchestra in addition to performances with American Opera Projects, LA International New Music Festival, the Temple Symphony Orchestra, and the June in Buffalo Festival. Brennfleck is a native of Ewing, N.J., and holds degrees from Westminster Choir College.

NY Alert

For the latest updates on weather-related or other emergencies, sign up at www.nyalert.gov.

St. Philip's Church
Volunteers Serve With
Helping Hands

In an effort to fulfill its commitment to help others, volunteers from St. Philip's Church in the Highlands crossed the Hudson River to Newburgh and also flew to New Orleans last month to perform service projects to help try to improve lives of those in need.

The Newburgh project was done in collaboration with parents, students and board members of San Miguel Academy in preparation for its relocation. The academy educates 65 boys from underserved families in inner-city Newburgh. San Miguel aims to break the cycle of poverty through education.

For two days on a November weekend, families from Philipstown and Newburgh worked side-by-side cleaning and painting classrooms at the site for the school. St. Philip's Church plans to follow up by recruiting volunteers to assist with tutoring and after-school activities with an emphasis on the arts.

Volunteers also helped with a project to renovate a storm-ravaged home in the Bywater neighborhood, which had been donated to Calvin Duncan, who unjustly spent almost three decades in Angola Prison in Louisiana for a crime he did not commit. The courts freed him from a life sentence in 2011 after prolonged efforts by the Innocence Project.



St. Philip's Cross Trainer youth group engages young people in community service. Photo courtesy of St. Philip's Church

Working with Duncan last month, the seven St. Philip's volunteers replaced rotten floor joists, leveled the house, installed subflooring, and cleaned the property.

Volunteers participating at San Miguel in Newburgh were Marianne and Dyke Benjamin, Jim Bopp, Mike and Lynn Carano, David Gordon, Dan McEvoy, Susan MacLean, Blake and Belle Newton, Jim Platz, Nat Prentice, Marcus Plummer, Javen Stepp-Davis, Manuel Vazquez and workers from the VADO Corporation. St. Philip's Cross Trainer youth group volunteers included Devin Akbas, Chris Buonanno, Alex Lupetin, Thomas Lupetin, Ben McGowan, Connor O'Reilly, Kristin Serrand, Shawn Sharifi, Sophie Stark, William Stark as well as Leader Terri Akbas, assisted by Leslie Lupetin and Panni Gergely.

St. Philip's New Orleans volunteers were Bill Bopp, Jim Bopp, Ken Buxton, Greg Gunder, Phil Guttridge, Dan McEvoy and Joe Plummer.

St. Philip's welcomes participation of community volunteers regardless of religious affiliation. Contact Rev. Frank Geer at Stphilips@highlands.com.

Evelyn Carr-White and
Luke P. Hilpert Elected to
Chapel Restoration Board

The Chapel Restoration announces the election of Evelyn Carr-White and Luke P. Hilpert to its board of directors.

"Evelyn and Luke bring enormous talent and energy to our board. We look

forward to working with them to expand our activities and our service to the community," said board president Michael J. Armstrong.

Carr-White has been an actress and interior designer and, until recently, an active member of the Haldane PTA. She was a founder of the Neighborhood Association, Dumbo, Brooklyn, and multi-term president of a large condominium board. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University with a BFA in acting and a graduate of Parsons School of Design, she resides in Cold Spring with her husband, playwright Sharr White, and their two sons.

Hilpert, a partner in The Hilpert Law Offices, Croton and Cold Spring, is a graduate of Hamilton College and holds a J.D. degree and certificate in environmental law from Pace University School of Law. He is a member of the board and corporate secretary of Hudson River HealthCare, Inc. Luke, who is alumni liaison of the Hackley School, grew up in Garrison and is a resident of Cortlandt Manor.

The Chapel Restoration, a Greek Revival landmark in Cold Spring, is a prized venue for weddings and special events, and hosts the Sunday Music Series and Sunset Reading Series.

Mended Hearts Support
Group Continues Monthly
Meetings

Mended Hearts Support Group, open to all with heart disease and their families, will continue its monthly meetings in 2014. The group meets the third Sunday of every month at 2 p.m. at Visiting Nurse Service of Putnam, 979 Route 22, Brewster. Contact Eileen Pezzo at 914-419-1170. Mended Hearts also meets the first Tuesday of every month at 12:30 p.m. at Putnam Hospital Center, 670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel. For more information, contact Shirley at 845-345-9190.

Local Prof is Music
Supervisor for Award-
Winning Documentary

David Rothenberg of Cold Spring, professor of philosophy and music at New Jersey Institute of Technology, contributed to a documentary film that has won the grand prize at the International Documentary Film Festival in Amsterdam (IDFA).

The documentary, *Song from the Forest*, features New Jersey native Louis Sarno, who has lived in the jungle of Central Africa for 25 years, recording music of the Bayaka pygmies while fully becoming part of their society. The film chronicles his life there and tracks him as he takes his son out of the jungle to visit America for the first time.

Rothenberg worked as a music supervisor on the film, which won the Grand Prize for Best Feature Documentary at the Amsterdam Festival. Rothenberg was traveling in Berlin two years ago when he heard about the making of the documentary. He met with di-

rector Michael Obert, who asked Rothenberg to work on the film's soundtrack, especially adding more Pygmy music and rainforest sounds. Rothenberg, who has an expertise in music technology and specifically the relationship between music and nature, agreed. He wrote about Sarno in his recent book *Bug Music*, describing how the music of the Bayaka fits in seamlessly with the creatures in the rainforest, illustrating in sound how a culture can truly be at one with nature.

"That's basically how I became the music supervisor on the film," says Rothenberg. "It's a great documentary, and it's now heading for American festivals. We'll find out soon if we got into the Sundance Film Festival. And if it gets distribution it will show in American cinemas hopefully in the fall of 2014."

Nominate a 2014 Martha
Washington Woman of
History Award Candidate

Don't miss the opportunity to nominate a woman from the local Hudson Valley area you feel deserves to be the 2014 recipient of the "Martha Washington Woman of History Award." This award, given by Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site each spring, acknowledges the accomplishments of a local female who has contributed in her own special way toward bringing a greater awareness, appreciation and acceptance of Hudson Valley history into the forefront.

The closing date for submission of applications is Jan. 6, 2014. For more information or to obtain a form, visit palisadesparksconservancy.org or call 845-562-1195. The award will be given during a ceremony in spring 2014.



Washington's Headquarters

Kurt Rhoads Directs
TrueNorth Project

Staged Readings of The Extremists in Cold Spring and Beacon

Kurt Rhoads will direct three staged readings of *The Extremists* by C.J. Hopkins in Cold Spring and Beacon. The two-person show will feature Rhoads and Brian Dykstra. Performances take place at the Beacon Institute on Friday, Dec. 13, and Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., and at 3 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 14, at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. Suggested donation is \$10.

States Rhoads: "*The Extremists* is a political satire that turns out to be more than it appears. This 80-minute one-act play darkly explores (To next page)



Kurt Rhoads, left, directs three staged readings of *The Extremists*, a two-person show featuring Rhoads and Brian Dykstra. Photos courtesy of TrueNorth Theatre Project

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

the motives behind the news, broadcasts and pundits. Absurd, insane and terrifying, it is unlike anything you’ve ever seen before. This is an alternative to traditional Christmas fare and may be inappropriate for children 13 and under.”

Rhoads is an actor, director and co-founder of TrueNorth Theatre Project. Most recently he played the Duke in Measure for Measure at The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C. He has acted and directed at Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival for 16 seasons. He and his wife, actress Nance Williamson, have done 58 plays together.

Dykstra is an actor, playwright and HBO Def Poet. Most recently he portrayed Lord Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet* at The Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

Hopkins is an award-winning American playwright. TrueNorth Theatre Project is a non-profit organization of local theater artists dedicated to bringing new and under-produced works to the Hudson Valley. “Theater where you live!”

The Beacon Institute is located at 191 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-838-1600 or visit bire.org. Butterfield Library is located at 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring. Call 845-265-3040 or visit butterfieldlibrary.org.

Beacon

bau Gallery Presents Saints & Sinners on Second Saturday

bau Gallery presents for the month of December, *Saints and Sinners*, the gallery’s Annual National Open Call Juried Exhibition. An opening reception will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14.

Saint is a word used to describe a believer who is virtuous and will have salvation. Sinner is a word used to describe a breaker of laws, that’s headed for destruction. This season, often a time for self-reflection, brings out the best and the worst in people. Even children worry about being on the naughty or nice list. From Saint Nicholas to the Krampus there are many ways to depict good and evil.

Carl Van Brunt was invited to jury this exhibition. Van Brunt is a digital artist in his own right, a Beacon gallerist from 2002-2010, and continues to curate with Van Brunt Projects.

bau Gallery is located at 506 Main St., Beacon. The exhibition runs from Dec. 13 through Jan. 5. Gallery hours are 5 to 9 p.m. Fridays and noon to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Visit baugallery.com.



Photo courtesy of bau

School of Jellyfish hosts opening reception for Fete Paradiso

School of Jellyfish will host an opening reception for *Fete Paradiso*, a collection of photographs by Charles Giraudet, and a tree lighting holiday party at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14, in Beacon. The



Charles Giraudet’s *Paradiso*, a documentation of French amusement rides in Governor’s Island

Photo courtesy of School of Jellyfish

event includes holiday cheers and bubbly libations.

Last summer, visitors to Governor’s Island in New York were able to experience the *Fete Paradiso*, a collection of French amusement rides from the 1880s to the 1950s, a period during which much of the vocabulary of fair design was invented.

The *Paradiso* series documents the Fete’s dismantling when parts of the carousels with their toy cars, ballerinas, horses, dragons, lions and cartoon characters were moved back to crates and containers to await their next outing.

Through the looking glass of a documentary approach, Giraudet is interested in how objects and spaces are vehicles for memories, real and imagined. The exhibit is on view through Jan. 5. School of Jellyfish is located at 183 Main St., Beacon. Visit schoolofjellyfish.org and charlesgiraudet.com.

RiverWinds Hosts Reception and Gift Feast

Collects art supply donations for school children

RiverWinds Gallery *Buone Feste* — a feast of holiday gifts, made by more than 50 Hudson Valley artists, is open now through the year’s end. There is also an artists’ reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 14, Beacon Second Saturday.

RiverWinds is collecting art supplies for Beacon elementary school children. The donation deadline is Dec. 18. On wish lists: cake tempera (round or square); white drawing paper and construction paper; watercolor brushes; soft pastel sets; oil pastel sets (large size sticks); student grade watercolor paper; watercolor pan sets; black Sharpies; self-hardening clay or model magic; good markers; paint; good quality paper; regular crayons; construction paper crayons.

Seasonal offerings include ornaments and wreaths, cards and mystical villages. Gift items include paintings in a variety of mediums including oil, pastel, colored pencil, acrylic, fabric and gilded in a variety of



RiverWinds, The Holiday Store

Photo courtesy of RiverWinds

styles and colors; still life images, Hudson Valley landscapes and contemporary work.

Other selections range from photographs to scarves to jewelry of all kinds as well as glass works and sculpture, cookbooks, and a variety of CDs by local artists including the Grammy nomination by Jeff Haynes — *Pete Seeger, the Storm King*.

Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Monday and noon to 9 p.m. Beacon Second Saturday. RiverWinds Gallery is located at 172 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-838-2880 or visit riverwindsgallery.com.

Forgotten Dreams Exhibition Opens at Theo Ganz Studio

Theo Ganz Studio announces a new group exhibition, *Forgotten Dreams*. An opening reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14, in Beacon. The exhibit is on view through Jan. 5.

Forgotten Dreams features the work of Samantha Beste, Hiro Ichikawa, Insun Kim, Wendy Lindbergh, Andrea Moreau, Antonella Piemontese and Judy Sigunick. Memory, the mood, past desires, present

realities, and the space in-between reflected in will be on view in paintings, drawings, sculptures and fabric objects.

Theo Ganz Studio is located at 149 Main St., Beacon. Call 917-318-2239 or visit theoganzstudio.com.

Fovea screens short film The Little Freedom Church

Fovea presents the first public screening of the short film *The Little Freedom Church*, directed by Lori Grinker, at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14.


The little church is the St. James African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church on Academy Street in Beacon. The film follows the small congregation as they discuss their history, their faith, and the joyful noise they make unto the Lord. The 22-minute film is free; seating is first come first served. It will be followed by a short talk with the director and church members featured in the film, and a public reception.

Lori Grinker, born in New York, is an award-winning documentary photographer, internationally exhibited and published. She has had two solo exhibitions at Fovea, *Afterwar: Veterans from a World in Conflict* (2007) and *Nothing Like My Home: The Iraqi Refugee Crisis* (2011). Her photographs are held in many museum collections including the International Center of Photography, New York; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and San Francisco MOMA. Fovea Exhibitions is located at 143 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-202-3443 or visit FoveaExhibitions.org.



Fovea will screen *The Little Freedom Church*, directed by Lori Grinker.

Photo courtesy of Fovea




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Philomena (PG-13)
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FRI 7:30, SAT 3:00 5:30 8:00
SUN 2:00 4:30, TUES & WEDS
7:30, THUR 2:00 7:30

Special Holiday Treat for the Family

The Nutcracker
(NR — Treat as G)
SAT, Dec. 14 at 12 Noon

Check our website or call the box office for more info: www.downingfilmcenter.com

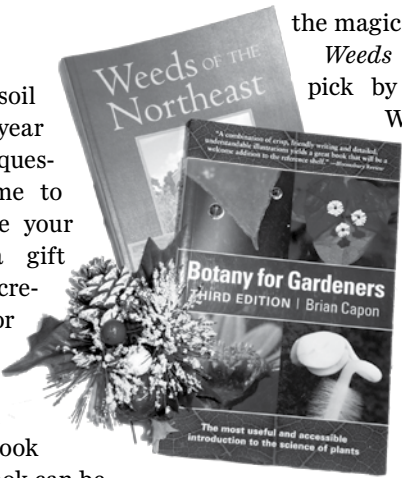
Roots and Shoots

By Pamela Doan

Since tilling the soil at this time of year is out of the question, it's a good time to plan for spring. Give your favorite gardener a gift that will help them create the landscape or vegetable garden of their dreams. Once the holidays are over, a helpful reference book or beautiful design book can be the inspiration and guidance they need. I asked the Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, a group with diverse experience and backgrounds, for recommendations to create this gift guide.

Master Gardener Robert Madigan recommended *Botany for Gardeners Revised Edition* by Brian Capon. He said, "It's an easy read, has clear concepts and is not overly technical or complicated. I think it would be a good choice for gardeners who might not have ever had any formal gardening or horticulture education. This book plugged a lot of small holes in my knowledge about the topic and also gave me a broader insight about how plants work."

I'm a fan of this book, as well. It's been a long time since I took biology in high school and this book took me back into



the magical world of how life works. *Weeds of the Northeast* was the pick by Elizabeth Apgar Triano. With it, you can begin to identify everything growing in your yard and learn how to tell friend from foe. It's especially useful in the spring when plants are just coming up and you can't tell a weed from a desirable plant. It can also help you make friends with weeds. Just because you didn't plant it there, doesn't mean it's a nuisance. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder when it comes to weeds and though a certain plant may not have value for you, it might be important for something else in the eco-system.

Zshawnn Sullivan Smith recommended the *New York Gardener's Guide*, by Ralph Snodsmith, who hosted the "The Garden Hotline" radio show for 35 years and died in 2010. This book has something for both the beginner and more experienced gardener alike. Filled with tips and good advice, Snodsmith understands the unique features of gardening in our region and can help anyone overcome the challenges.

Dianne Olsen, the Cornell Cooperative Extension Senior Educator in Putnam County, chose a book about landscape

design as her top pick. *What Perennial Where* by Roy Lancaster has, "categories of plants for specific sites, plus plants for specific purposes, like "architectural leaves, and groundcovers." The book is filled with photos and all the information a gardener needs to create a perennial landscape, including the height, color, light and water requirements, and hardiness of each plant. Your favorite gardener can design a gorgeous flowerbed with this reference book.

Since garden books can also be lovely to look at, I'd add a couple of coffee table books to the list. After visiting Innisfree Garden in Millbrook for the first time last summer, I've got the photography book *Innisfree: An American Garden* by Lester Collins, the landscape architect who

largely created it, on my wish list. Graceful, peaceful, natural landscaping shaped the nearly 200 acres around a lake into a series of rolling vistas. This is the book to use as a muse for inspiration.

The recently published *Private Gardens of the Hudson Valley* by Jane Garmey with photographs by John Hall, would make an excellent gift, too. The book documents 26 private gardens in our area, certainly enough to stoke ideas and give any gardener something to aspire to. Since it only covers private gardens, most people won't have a chance to experience these gardens firsthand and the photos will have to suffice. It's a rare peek into an off-limits world with the setting our own area with its waterways and mountains. Maybe you'll want one copy to keep for yourself.

At Home with Handel: Nicholas Tamagna (from page 7)

given me a perspective on many voice types and how they relate. It also makes me a good teacher. Because my teacher was so intuitive I learned so much from watching her. I always felt pigeonholed, put into a category. Now I have a different perspective: everyone has a particular voice. It's so easy in classical music to pigeonhole and if you're not a "type" it's hard, so don't label yourself. Figure out what's inherent about your voice and work on that – don't categorize yourself. Even within typical voice types you can find ways to make a niche. A lot of students feel pressure to adhere to something without taking time to find out what their personality wants to create. That's a part of living life as an artist. It's always changing – you have to be willing to go with that. You must reinvent yourself. Some can't and get stuck. Over time less and less people stick it out: perseverance counts. I just kept working.

What are your feelings about *Messiah*?

Messiah is an amazing story no matter if you have an investment in the religion itself. It's highly dramatic, emotional, melodic writing. It's an amazing story of someone coming to earth to save humanity. That kind of story has always been a part of human history. *Messiah* is a bit of a metaphor for life. Emotionally, I get


to sing a lot of alto parts. The alto often gets the gravitas, the Mother Earth. I can bridge the gap between the high voice to low, masculine yet high – it isn't gender-biased, neither man nor woman, not a special character, but a narrator who is emotionally invested in the story. With oratorio it's about finding the specific moment they're trying to capture, magnified by the music. It's a beautiful piece to delve into and study as there is such a wealth of different perspectives on the story given throughout the piece.




I've done eight or nine different kinds of *Messiahs* – you never know what to expect. It's fed by the type of orchestra, the conductor, your fellow soloists, the choir and the audience. I've done it in a small church and at Avery Fisher Hall; both have their merits, whether it's intimate or filling a large space with sound. You can go see it 1,000 times and always hear something new. It transcends time and I'm always honored to do it.

Although you did not grow up full time in Cold Spring, you have great ties to the area; what are they?

I've been coming to Cold Spring ever since childhood. It's a place that I grew up in even if I didn't live there the whole time. When I was 10 I did a Hand-To-Mouth show at the Depot Theatre; I worked at Boscobel as a ticket taker at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, so I spent a lot of time there. Right after college I moved in with my dad (former Putnam County Legislator Vincent Tamagna) for about three years, full time. These were formative years, in which I was trying to launch a career. It's so inspiring, with the mountains – it's almost an artist's retreat of a sort. New York City is great – there's an energy that can't be duplicated, but in Cold Spring there is this beautiful nature surrounding you and a community of people. I worked at Cathryn's and Cathryn was really supportive of me when I finally decided to do this full time. Cold Spring to me was almost an artistic incubator; it allowed me to figure out my next steps. I have a reverence for the area. I now live in Manhattan and travel quite a bit – I'm away more than home. Manhattan has been an amazing place but Cold Spring is more to me like home, in a way.

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