

The Philipstown.info Paper

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Giving Abounds Around Town

Community members embrace holiday spirit

By Christine Simek

Many folks in Philipstown spend December preparing their homes and hearths for the holidays by hanging lights, baking gingerbread and challah bread, and wrapping gifts for friends and family members. For some local residents, the holidays wouldn't be complete without giving back to others in our community, too. There are several organizations in and around Philipstown that provide opportunities for community members to volunteer, donate and participate in bringing the joy of the season to neighbors who might need a little bit of assistance making merry this year.

Ringing in the holidays

The tinkling of Salvation Army bells is a familiar and ubiquitous sound of Christmas and one that greets visitors to Foodtown in Cold Spring throughout the month of December. Christine Locaparra and her son Rocco, residents of Garrison, can be found receiving and thanking shoppers for monetary donations from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. every Monday through Saturday throughout the holiday season. Contributions that are tossed into the distinctive red-and-white tin bucket help support lunch and dinner programs at the Corps' Community Center in Beacon.

This is the sixth year that Locaparra has been an ambassador for the Salvation Army, a group she got involved in because of her faith and her desire to be of service to the local community. Locaparra said that she is Roman Catholic but enjoys working with the Salvation Army, because they are "very charitable and do a lot of good work." (Continued on page 5)



Decorated gingerbread cookies festoon Go-Go Pops in Cold Spring

Photos by Jeanne Tao

Gallagher Says He's Done With Mayor Job

Time to refocus on running his own business

By Kevin E. Foley

Cold Spring Mayor Seth Gallagher told *The Paper* on Wednesday, Dec. 12, that he is "very likely" not going to be a candidate for re-election come March 2013. "I am not planning on running," he said when pressed on his intentions. Gallagher has served nearly two two-year terms as mayor and also served as trustee for three years.

The mayor said he thought it was time he paid more attention to his bagpipe-making business after seven years of being preoccupied with local civic issues.

Gallagher said he believed he had accomplished much of what he had set out to do and thought this would be a good time to move back to a more private life.

"The job takes a lot more time than it ever did," he said, pointing out he received \$15,000 annually for a job he said involved 30 hours of work a week. "Do the math," he said. "And there's no health insurance. It's not very attractive from a financial standpoint."

He quickly emphasized having the job is an honor. And he also warned any potential successor to be prepared to take a principled stand when needed, even if it alienates supporters. "You have to be prepared to take some heat," he said.

Gallagher referred to the presence of two media operations in town, *Philipstown.info/The Paper* and the *PNCR* as another factor in bringing a greater spotlight to issues and intensifying disputes.

"I have confidence in the general wisdom of the people. It's important to remember that when you're elected, you are representing all the people in the village, not just the ones who show up at meetings. You have to vote on behalf of all residents even if you take grief from some."

Gallagher said recent clashes with Board of Trustees members and others, including some previously ardent supporters, over the proposed Butterfield project had no bearing on his apparent decision not to run again.

The mayor took pains to delineate what he believed were his major accomplishments. Among them were:

- Budget reform bringing the village from a \$90,000 deficit to a \$180,000 surplus;
- Finalization of the village Comprehensive Plan;
- Relining the water main pipes, a project first raised in 1991;
- Opening the waterfront dock area with boats mooring there for the first time in 20 years, bringing visitors and revenue to the village;
- Negotiating easement access for the village to make repairs and monitor conditions at the upper dam;
- Finally getting approval of a long-delayed, federally funded Main Street improvement project.

While Gallagher has not shut the door definitively on (Continued on page 3)



Butterfield Rezoning Likely to Depend on Concept Plan

Paulding R1 strip, easier approval process on senior housing proposed, too

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Cold Spring Village Board Tuesday night reviewed draft rezoning intended to protect the village from any redevelopment schemes for the old Butterfield Hospital property that fail to implement the concept plan created with public input over the last several months.

In two separate but similar drafts given the board, the B4-district zoning changes needed for the proposed project would only become valid if the developer "substantially" adheres to the concept plan. Should redevelopment take a different form, the new zoning, setting up a B4-A Medical and Healthcare Facility Mixed-Use district, would apply, and the current B4 provisions would remain in place. These limit the site to medical, R1 single-family residential, and select other uses, like village-government offices. The basic B4 zoning authorizes senior-citizen housing only (Continued on page 3)



Christine Locaparra at her post in front of Foodtown in Cold Spring

Photo by C. Simek

Mouths to Feed

Merry Chocolate to All

By Celia Barbour

For children of a certain age (and raised in certain families), the very word “Christmas” is highly volatile, capable of setting off little explosions of effervescent joy in their souls. Over the course of the past month, my daughter has grown adept at casually working it into comments about, say, the day of the week or the arrangement of the furniture, after which, she just can’t help it, she squeaks with private delight.



Chocolate-pecan cookies

Photo by C. Barbour

The same incantation is less effective on those of us who have lived through more than a few holiday seasons. Say “Christmas” several times, and you might notice something more like an anxiety attack setting in. I do, anyway. And so I spend these early December weeks looking for other ways to trick myself into feeling merry. I stop to admire the neighbors’ holiday lights and the decorations along Main Street. I shop for presents, pick out wrapping paper, RSVP to holiday parties (and even go to them if I can figure out what to wear).

But eventually a moment comes when I have to face up to a truth I realized long

ago: The Christmas spirit doesn’t just seep into me, through osmosis. I have to roll up my sleeves and get busy making it.

And for the next eight days, my primary construction materials will be butter, sugar, and flour.

Christmas cookie baking is not like other kinds of baking. In addition to the precision, patience and artistry demanded by all the pastry arts, it also requires high-level strategic thinking. Every year, I make multiple batches of several different types of cookies, most of which we box up and give away to friends. Each

contains my cornerstone cookie, the Spoon Cookie, which became something of a legend after it went off to find its way in the world seven years ago. That’s when I wrote about it in *Gourmet* magazine, and the recipe survives on the *Epicurious* website to this day, garnering comments both snarky and sweet, and bearing the website’s prestigious blue ribbon. But it is also a massive pain in the neck to create, requiring several nights’ work from start to finish.

So I need its companions in the cookie box to be much less taxing but still delicious enough to appear in its lofty company. Because Spoon Cookies improve after a few days, the other cookies should also be able to be thrown together at the last minute.

For many years now I have been searching for a chocolate cookie that would fit the bill. Not because I am obsessed with chocolate — I’m not, and



Photo by C. Barbour

moreover I find it a bit too dark and messy to be completely at home among the season’s sugar, peppermint and ginger. But I realize how essential chocolate is to others’ happiness and would hate to deprive anyone of it.

For the last few years, I’ve made a chocolate sandwich cookie with a white-chocolate-and-peppermint ganache filling. It scores high on both looks and flavor, but simple it is not. So this year, I decided to try adapting a cookie that I’d made in summertime. It has a super-ten-

der, melty texture, somewhat like a Mexican wedding cookie, plus a big fat wallop of chocolate flavor and gooey richness, thanks to two cups of jolly old chips.

The originals were chunky lumps, however, and would have stood out in the lineup like Shrek at a beauty pageant. So I revived a technique I’d adored as a kid: smearing the bottom of a flat-bottomed glass with butter, dipping it in sugar, and using it to flatten the cookie — and leave a sparkling surface. Then I added a half-pecan to the top of each. The results are still a bit lumpy, but they are pretty lumps. And when I bit into one, I very nearly squeaked for joy.

Chocolate-pecan cookies

- ½ cup pecans, plus more for decorating
- 2 tablespoons sugar, plus more for decorating
- 1½ cups flour
- 1/3 cup plain unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup butter, at room temperature, plus more for decorating
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- 1 tablespoon brandy, rum, or cooled espresso
- 2 cups chocolate chips

1. In a food mill or food processor, grind the pecans and 2 tablespoons of sugar until they have the texture of coarse meal.
2. In a mixing bowl, sift together the flour, cocoa, baking powder and salt. Set aside.
3. Using an electric mixer, cream 1 cup of the butter and the powdered sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the vanilla and brandy or rum. Add the nut mixture, mix briefly, then add the dry ingredients and mix just until combined. Stir in the chips. Refrigerate the dough for one hour.
4. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Pour some sugar onto a saucer. Generously butter the bottom of a very flat-bottomed glass. Roll the dough into 1-inch balls, dip the glass into the sugar, and press it into the dough to flatten. Repeat with the remainder of the dough (you may need to re-butter the glass from time to time). Add a pecan half to the top of each cookie, and bake for 9 minutes. Cool at least 10 minutes on the pan before transferring to a wire rack to finish cooling.



Join *The Paper's* Holiday Photofest


Contribute your best shots of the town in its holiday splendor

Over the next few weeks *The Paper* will collect high-resolution, color pictures from local photographers of local holiday scenes and themes. We would prefer pictures taken this year. The best of the photos (in our opinion) will be featured in *The Paper* on its color pages.

Limit: two photos per person.

Send your photos (or questions) to editor@philipstown.info.





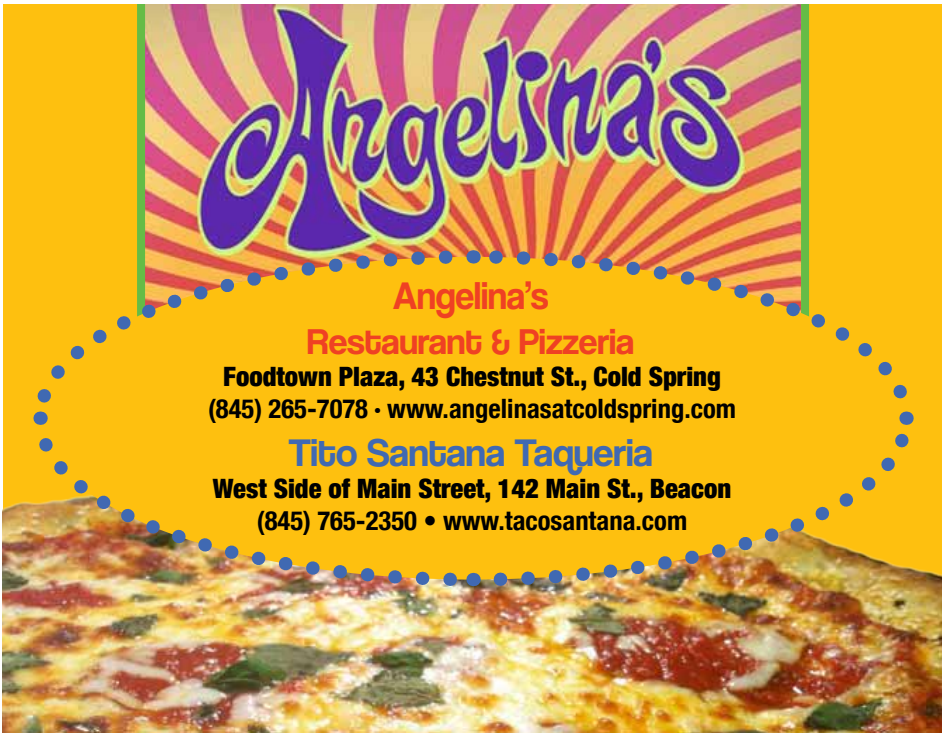
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Butterfield Rezoning Likely to Depend on Concept Plan (from page 1)



As residents and developer Paul Guillaro and his colleagues pay close attention, the Cold spring Village Board and attorney Steve Gaba continue their work on draft rezoning for the Butterfield property.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

by special permit and does not provide for mixed-usage.

Paul Guillaro of Butterfield Realty LLC, the parcel’s owner, proposes to tear down the decrepit hospital and build a complex consisting of three single-family homes on Paulding Avenue, condominiums for retirement-age buyers (senior-citizen housing), an intergovernmental municipal building-cum-community/senior center, post office, and an office-retail “square” along Route 9D. To proceed, he needs the zoning changes, the subject of several Village Board sessions to date.

The Village Board is expected to go on with its rezoning work next week, with Village Attorney Stephen Gaba providing an updated version that further merges the most recent drafts into a coherent text. The Village Board tentatively scheduled a public hearing on the draft law for Jan. 29, allowing time for feedback from the Plan-

ning Board and similar sub-boards.

Gaba provided one of the drafts discussed Tuesday; the other came from the Butterfield Realty team. Along with making the zoning contingent upon adherence to the concept plan, both drafts call for allowing senior-citizen housing under the normal approval process, not the more complicated special-permit application. The developer’s draft also would establish an R1 One-Family-Residence District along Paulding Avenue, an idea endorsed by Gaba as well in prior iterations. Likewise, the two Dec. 11 drafts also demand a 75-foot setback for any structure not a one-family home on a bordering village street, such as Paulding Avenue.

In opening the discussion, Gaba defined the main question as “how can the village have some security that, if it makes this zoning change, it’s going to end up with something that looks very

much like the concept plan?” The answer, he maintained, is “to make the zoning conditional.” His draft law and that from Butterfield Realty both state that “in the event that the property is not actually developed substantially in accordance with the concept plan, then the zoning map designation will revert to B4.” If for some reason Guillaro’s redevelopment does not proceed, both draft law versions state that “then the property will revert to B4 zoning for any other development.” This “conditional zoning” approach “solves a lot of problems from the village’s point of view,” Gaba explained.

“This zoning works only so long as there is implementation substantially in accordance with that concept plan,” Richard O’Rourke, a Butterfield Realty lawyer, concurred. Until Butterfield Realty offers a detailed site plan for its anticipated structures, “we don’t have the zoning.” Overall, O’Rourke said, the conditionality stipulation “provides you with the assurances you wanted” while also allowing Guillaro to move forward.

The rezoning drafts do not say what constitutes “substantially” conforming to the concept plan.

Although its previous suggestions had not included the Paulding R1 strip, Butterfield Realty now advocates “that we zone a strip R1” along with maintaining a 75-foot setback, said Tim Miller, a planner working with Guillaro. He said the setback and R1 designation would safeguard Paulding and “protect the people for the long-term future. If that’s not zoned R1, you could do something within the setback.” The two-prong approach also serves open-space needs, Miller said.

John Cronin, representing the Paulding Avenue neighborhood, said that the rezoning language is “substantially what we were after. We’re very pleased.” They

remain interested in ensuring adequate open space, he added.

Such public input “is helping us get to a better solution quicker,” Mayor Seth Gallagher remarked.

As Tuesday’s discussion continued, uncertainty emerged as to the timing of a public hearing on the rezoning and the role of village sub-boards. Likewise, the unresolved issue of demolition of the old hospital hovered over the room. “We don’t know whether we can build this because we still have a wild card out there, the Historic District Review Board (HDRB),” O’Rourke said. Holding jurisdiction over tear-downs, the HDRB is slated to announce its decision on Dec. 19. So far it has seemed totally opposed to the demolition, or at least extremely reluctant to condone it, making a case for the historicity of the entire hospital building.

Miller cited the Butterfield Realty belief “that there would not be an adverse impact on the historic resources” of the village “if that hospital were removed.” For purposes of fulfilling New York state requirements, he referred to both the Planning Board and Historic District Review Board as “interested” agencies, but not “involved” agencies, in the rezoning. “They’re invited to comment, but they don’t actually have approval over the instant [pertinent] action, which is the zoning. You’re really the only agency that has anything to say about this, ultimately,” he told the Village Board.

The village attorney objected. “He and I disagree on that” claim about sub-board participation, Gaba said. However, Gaba also informed that Village Board that while it may get feedback from the Planning Board, “you’re going to have to be the ones to decide, in the end” how to proceed and by what steps. “You’re going to have to take a hard look.”

Gallagher Says He’s Done With Mayor Job (from page 1)

running, his announced intention will inevitably set off speculation on other candidates for both mayor and membership on the trustee board.

His potential lame-duck status could also change the dynamics in the tussle over Butterfield in ways not yet clear.

Among the names mentioned by local activists (on a not-for-attribution basis) as potential candidates to fill Gallagher’s seat were Deputy Mayor and Trustee Bruce Campbell (mentioned by Gallagher), Trustee Chuck Hustis, Trustee Matt Francisco, Comprehensive Board Chairman Michael Armstrong, and long-time Gallagher critic Michael Bowman, current president of the Cold Spring Fire Company.

For his part, Armstrong demurred on any personal intentions about running for office. Instead, he said he hoped Gallagher could be persuaded to change his mind and run yet again.

“I think it would be a great loss for the village if he chooses not to run again,” said Armstrong. “I disagree with him on some issues, but I believe he has done a

tremendous job. People don’t appreciate the way the job has changed over the years and how we need someone who is up to the task.”

Armstrong said further that the role of mayor involved mastering not only budget, planning and infrastructure issues but also appreciating the need for protecting the village from legal conflicts arising out of various projects. He said he thought Gallagher and Village Attorney Stephen Gaba have “kept the village out of trouble and have protected the village interests.” Armstrong said people should recall lawsuits in the past that “cost the village a great deal of money,” when they are taking positions today that might result in a lawsuit.



Mayor Seth Gallagher



Thank you, Barbara DeSilva.

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Our board salutes Barbara DeSilva. Who can calculate what these concerts mean to the cultural life and the economy of our community? We salute Barbara for her knowledge and her tireless dedication to the wonderful musicians who perform here. We know they and the people who have enjoyed their music join with us in tribute.

Michael J. Armstrong
President, on behalf of the Chapel Restoration Board

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December 11, 2012

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am honored and humbled to be your newly elected County Legislator. I will work tirelessly for our community and partner with all my colleagues in Carmel to solve the issues facing Putnam County and specifically Legislative District #1.

For all those who voted for me, I am truly grateful for your support, and for those of you who did not, be assured I am representing 100 percent of the residents of our community.

I will solicit input and listen to the concerns of everyone. We all share the same goals: To preserve this special place we live in, provide needed services here and reduce county spending and taxes.

My special thanks to all of you who worked on and/or donated to my election campaign. Happy Holidays to all!

Barbara Scuccimarra
Putnam County Legislator-Elect

Philipstown.info

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• Legal arguments by lawyer for Butterfield developer

• Photos of Garrison and Haldane school holiday concerts

• The Weekend Roundup with pictures of people and events

• Phil's List: Free online local classifieds devoted to jobs, housing, tag sales, services and more

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Village lucky to have Guillaro

Dear Editor:

My husband and I moved to Cold Spring a year ago. We had visited Cold Spring many times over our 46-year marriage. We remember all the way back to Gus’ Antique Bar and the lumber yard that used to be where Paul Guillaro developed the beautiful condos at the waterfront. When the corner unit became available for rent, we were positively delighted; we hope ultimately to purchase the property. During our first year here, we’ve met so many nice people, and we are enchanted with the charm of the village. The annual Christmas tree lighting, the July 4th celebration, the Halloween parade ... all so endearing like a Norman Rockwell painting.

Having come through the terrible Oct. 29 storm and evacuated for a time from our lovely home, we came to know quite a bit more about Paul Guillaro, our landlord. We want to share our story with the village as a Christmas gift and New Year’s message of hope and encouragement.

From the day after the storm (which flooded the first floor of all the homes in this part of the village) until today (Dec. 11), when our new kitchen cabinets are being completed and the last of the new appliances are being brought in, we have seen a level of integrity, responsibility, service, caring and kindness that surpassed expectation at every turn. There are few, if any, developers like Paul Guillaro.

Although the work has progressed at a remarkable pace, Mr. Guillaro and his management team (Unicorn Contracting) have spared no expense, taken no shortcuts, and performed miracles to rip out the floors, walls, doors, cabinets, everything. Then a thorough microbial cleaning followed by new sheetrock, new doors, repainting, new floors, new cabinets, new appliances, new everything. It is almost as if nothing ever happened less than six weeks after Sandy’s devastation.

During and after the storm, we moved into the Marriott at Fishkill. My husband is 88 and being treated for cancer. He was eager to return home, so Mr. Guillaro permitted us to come back in early and even purchased a new small temporary refrigerator and microwave that were installed on the second floor so we could function until the first floor had been restored. His team put up plastic barriers so that we were protected from the dust associated with the restoration. By some miracle, we were able to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner (from the Hudson House Inn next door) at home. Everything had been restored except the kitchen.

Over the years, due to our work and other commitments, we’ve preferred to rent rather than own a home, so we speak from experience as tenants. We

have never enjoyed this level of service, professionalism, consideration, efficiency, competence ... even kindness. Cold Spring is so lucky to have a man like Paul Guillaro. He respects this community and can be relied upon to continue his proven record of enhancing the village’s beauty, charm — and revenues.

Stephanie Gallagher
22 West St., Cold Spring

Demolish hospital, not standards

Dear Editor:

Fifteen years ago my wife and I moved to the village and bought a Second Empire house on Morris Avenue, just across the street from the Butterfield Library. A dry-goods merchant named George Washington Purdy built the house in 1865. It eventually became a boarding house for local schoolteachers, then the East Point Nursing Home, and finally the Village Victorian Bed & Breakfast.

When we bought the house it was in terrible condition. We have spent several hundred thousand dollars, and many thousands of hours, gradually repairing it and bringing it back to its 19th-century self. I have done much of the work myself, including hand-building and installing 22 large, arched, wooden storm windows to replace modern aluminum storms that hid the beautiful curves that are a characteristic of Hudson River architecture. Many, many people in Cold Spring have taken and are taking the same care with their historic homes.

When you invest as much in a property as we have, you want it to last. In this I regard the Historic District Review Board to be a key ally. Our home is in the Historic District, and I have been confident that any future owner would not be permitted to destroy the improvements we are making.

The HDRB is now weighing whether to allow the demolition of the Butterfield Hospital. The board has issued several papers suggesting that it favors rejecting the application to demolish. I hope that it will reconsider.

The historic value of Butterfield Hospital’s architecture disappeared when it was covered by an astonishingly ugly addition in 1963. To argue, as the HDRB has in one report, “that several design narratives unite the overall structure” is comical. The intent of the founding law guiding the HDRB is to protect the 19th-century character of the village as expressed in its architecture — not celebrate the messes left behind by 20th-century hacks.

My concern is that by redefining and relaxing its architectural standards to save a building no reasonable person would now call representative of 19th-century architecture, the HDRB risks doing real damage to both its standards and its abil-

ity to effectively enforce those standards. This matters. It matters if the HDRB muddles the criteria used to evaluate applications, loses the respect and support of the community, and can no longer protect the legacy of the scores of people here who have done their best to preserve the 19th-century charm of the buildings where they live and work.

Michael Armstrong
Cold Spring

Odell cannot make guarantees on Butterfield development

Dear Editor,

Just a quick cautionary note regarding the article concerning the Butterfield Zoning issue, which was presented in Nov. 29 on *Philipstown.info* (and the Nov. 30 edition of *The Paper*). County government is made up of two distinct and separate branches of government: the executive branch and the legislative branch. Executive Odell’s opinion on the Guillaro Butterfield Project is Executive Odell’s opinion and should not be construed or confused as representing the Putnam County Legislature. Ultimately, five members of the Legislature (out of nine) must agree to any expenditures of funds for leasing, renting or building of any facility anywhere within the county. No guarantees can be made by anyone representing county government as to whether the Butterfield Project or any project will garner the necessary support when the expenditure of county funds is considered.

Sincerely,
Sam Oliverio

Putnam County Legislator, District 2

Senior center not guaranteed

Dear Editor:

Regarding your coverage of the Dec. 5 HDRB hearing.

James Hartford is correct. A senior center in Philipstown is NOT dependent upon demolition of the hospital; it is dependent upon government spending.

Last year the county declined a proposal to install county services at Butterfield.

Audio recordings of this year’s meetings of the county’s Physical Services Committee give no indication that the county is ready to spend money on the build-out and rental of space for a senior center at Butterfield.

Next year’s budget includes no funding for a new senior center at Butterfield.

It is sad to hear divisive, angry and insulting comments about our neighbors on the HDRB made by people who have confused the reality of the county budget with political promises that may not be fulfilled.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Hawkins
Cold Spring

Marit McCabe and Emily Lansbury, co-producers of *The Philter*, *Philipstown.info*’s new video-blog

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ThePaper

Giving Abounds in Philipstown *(from page 1)*

Come rain or shine, snow or early darkness, Locaparra and her son take turns minding the bell and the bucket with a smile (while wearing many layers of clothing). They enjoy connecting with their neighbors and friends, meeting new people and knowing that they are doing some good. Larger monetary donations to the Salvation Army can be made on their website, salvationarmyusa.org; to donate or volunteer locally, contact Doris Gonzales at the Beacon Corps, 845-831-1253.

Giving at Haldane

The PTA at Haldane School is involved in two giving drives this year. The Giving Tree Committee has partnered with the Cold Spring Lions Club to collect and distribute gifts for underprivileged children and teenagers in Philipstown. Collection bins are located in the elementary and middle school lobbies, where donors can leave wrapped presents for children aged 5-17 years. The PTA committee coordinates with Betty Budney and Lions Club for distribution a few days before Christmas; the Lions Club donates baskets of food and clothing to the families as well.

Luz Bailey, chairwoman of the Giving Tree, said that last year 45 gifts were collected and distributed to Philipstown children. "It is a special event for both the community and the school," she said. "Gifts, no matter what they are or how big or small make the children so happy, and it just feels so good to give something back." Giving Tree donations will be ac-



Noreen Fee, treasurer of the PTA, stands with food donations collected at the elementary school winter concert at Haldane. Photo by C. Simek

cepted through Dec. 21. For more information or to give a gift, visit haldanepta.org or email Luz Bailey at eelena8@op-online.net.

The Haldane PTA and Haldane music department have partnered with the First Presbyterian Church's food pantry this year to collect food items for distribution at the Philipstown Food Pantry's weekly Saturday morning shop. Noreen Fee, treasurer of the PTA, said that that the parent-teacher organization wanted to find a way to get the kids involved in some kind of good will activity during the holiday season, and music teachers Debbie Contini and Danielle Cornacchio "suggested arranging a food drive." Contini said that she was thrilled that the music department could be involved in such an endeavor and that this kind of event made sense, because so many [Haldane] parents come through the doors of the school for events

during the month. "This school district and this community are constantly doing things to give back and to support each other. The kids see that and learn that it feels just as good to give as it does to get," Contini said.

Brent Harrington, principal of Haldane Elementary and Middle Schools, agreed. "As we continue to teach our students important pro-social behaviors, through both formal and informal curricular experiences, there is no greater skill than teaching students the importance of empathy. With the joy of the holiday season approaching, such opportunities for our students to recognize and contribute to those in need is of critical importance. The leadership of our PTA and Lion's Clubs to ensure that our students recognize those who are less fortunate and provide an opportunity help those in need through gift giving is commendable. Undoubtedly, it speaks to the larger values of our school community and greater Philipstown."

Donation boxes are available at each holiday concert, and families can bring canned and nonperishable food items. The final concert is Haldane Middle School's winter concert, which is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 17. To volunteer or donate to the Philipstown Food Pantry directly, call 845-265-3220 or email PTFP2481F@gmail.com.

Cold weather means coats

This is the fourth year that Abbie Carey, an agent at Houlihan Lawrence Realty, has coordinated a coat drive hosted by the agency. Inspired several years ago when she cleaned out a closet in her own home and realized that she and her kids had several warm jackets that weren't being worn, she decided to start a collection. Carey says that the Houlihan Lawrence office is conveniently located and open seven days a week, which makes

dropoffs easy for community members. Coats are collected throughout the winter and distributed through the Philipstown Food Pantry. Carey has been touched by the community's reception of the program, especially by people who stop by and "donate brand new coats purchased for the sole purpose of giving them away."

Reverend Leslie Mott of the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown is grateful for the various contributions, including of warm clothing, that the Philipstown community is making to her various outreach projects. "Our clients deserve the best," she said. "Warm adult coats with hoods are especially needed" for the church's twice annual Midnight Run, a night that volunteers spend in New York City distributing food and clothing items to the homeless. Clean coats, in good condition, can be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Houlihan Lawrence office, 60 Main St., in Cold Spring.

Toys for Putnam County

The Putnam Community Action Program (CAP) is holding its annual toy drive this month. As in the past, Putnam County Sheriff's Office cadets are assisting with the collection and distribution of donated toys and gifts for needy children in Putnam County. Last year, over 2,000 toys and gifts were distributed to about 800 children. The program is seeking new, unwrapped toys for children aged 0-18 years. Donors can drop off items at the sheriff's office headquarters, located on Fair Street in Carmel; at the Town of Kent Police Department, located on Route 52 in Kent; at the CAP headquarters, located at 121 Main St. in Brewster; or at any of the number of banks and businesses participating in the Toys-for-Tots Program sponsored by the Marine Corps League. Donations should be dropped off as soon as possible to allow delivery to children in time for the holidays.

Draft Garrison School Board Goals Reflect Community Input

Resolution against amount of testing introduced

By Jeanne Tao

A small group of parents who waited through the three-hour-long Garrison School Board of Education meeting Wednesday night, Dec. 12, commended the board during public comment for addressing their concerns in a draft of the board's long-term goals and objectives for the next few years.

Drafted by Superintendent Gloria Colucci, the board's previous goals were mainly retained for 2012-2015, since feedback on the existing goals was mostly positive, even if there existed some argument about whether the school was meeting those goals. Colucci slightly amended the draft goals to reflect a desire, expressed by parents attending three public goals workshops this fall and the board meeting that followed on Nov. 28, for more development of critical thinking and creativity in students and improved communication between the school and the community. They now also include an emphasis on their "dedicated and experienced faculty" as an asset of the district that has produced high levels of achievement.

Many more parents' concerns were addressed in the draft objectives for the rest of this and the next school years, 2012-2014. Colucci wrote objectives for the school administration to implement in order to meet the board's goals, aiming to increase active student engagement and differentiated instruction (teaching and providing work to stu-

dents at their individual ability levels), to further incorporate technology in classroom instruction, to improve curricula, to provide quality professional development for faculty, and to build community partnerships for better communication, among other tasks.

Parent concerns considered


Parents remarked upon the extent to which their concerns were mentioned in the objectives, especially thanking the board for including the creation of "a task force to research, examine, evaluate and recommend best practices to enhance the instructional program," as well as "a committee of community volunteers to research and (Continued on page 14)

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The Habitat for Ducks and Rabbits Is St. Philip's Nursery School

Program at Parish House recently celebrated 50th anniversary

By Alison Rooney

The ducks are studying science while the rabbits are making collages. No, it's not a scene out of a surrealist painting, but a morning snapshot at St. Philip's Nursery School in Garrison, where a variety of activities fill up two floors of the Parish House every morning from 9:05 a.m. until noon daily.

The Parish House has been home to the nursery school since 1960. Prior to that, dating back to 1948, the Garrison School rented the Parish House for their kindergarten and first-grade classes and, at times, used it as a gym. In September of 1960, a nursery school run in the home of Anne Osborn Prentice was essentially transferred into the newly established nursery school at St. Philip's Church. Prentice served as director for 12 years; she was followed by Carol Seabolt, Adele Williams, Anita Prentice, and, currently, JoAnne Chadwick, who was appointed director in 2009 after 30 years of teaching there and elsewhere. Many of the children now attending are second- and even third-generation attendees.



The piano, circle-time rug and learning board: each part of every day at St. Philip's Nursery School Photo by A. Rooney

Those rabbits studying science are the younger half of the 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds who comprise the school's current population of 32 children. The ducks are their elders, but a great deal of the day at St. Philip's is spent in mixed-age learning groups — part of the St. Philip's philosophy of grouping children by stages of development rather than just age. Children work with their smaller peer group, and there are also many full-school activities during a typical day.

St. Philip's places an emphasis on "the uniqueness of each child and a commitment to the importance of play, art and music." The stated goals of the nursery school are "to be a service to the St. Philip's family and to the community. A vestry-appointed committee has assisted

with the nursery-school operation. A non-sectarian approach has always been a part of the school philosophy."

The school's written mission is to "provide a preschool experience ... that will encourage them to be active, confident, creative, curious learners, well-prepared for further education and lifelong learning." Chadwick, who is certified in both elementary and music education, says that the goal is to "give each child a joyful start to lifelong learning."

The other teachers, who include Assistant Director Mary Ellen DeAngelis and head teachers Allison Jacoby, Kay Corkrum and Melissa Angier, are all "adults, with many years of pre-school experience," says Chadwick. The child/staff ratio is 5 to 1.

Most of the teachers have long ties to the program. DeAngelis has been there for 20 years, starting after her own children attended. She praised the "homey" atmosphere and found it "great that the ages are mixed," a sentiment echoed by teacher Pat Weigman, who said, "My girls came here. I think the small groups we have are great. Children can play together at times and not just in a big mass. We really get to know them as individuals."

Corkrum gave her tenure as "about — let's say over 20 years," and said a major asset of the school is its "proximity to the big school [Garrison School], which makes for an easy transition. But now half the students are from Cold Spring, and in that respect it's great that kids get to know other kids from both towns. It's nice, too, because the moms get to know each other as well. We're a half-day program so there are many playdates in the afternoons."

Operating during the school year, with a separate "Summer Fling" play-group program offered in July, the school enrolls children not only from Garrison but increasingly from Cold Spring as well, along with Beacon, Cortlandt Manor, Putnam Valley and Fishkill.

The day begins at 9:05 with an hour of free-choice time. During this period, children are free to choose from a great variety of self-directed activities spread throughout the three-room, downstairs complex. There are art projects, puzzles, manipulatives, pretend-play sets, blocks and much more available within the three rooms in which they may roam (under supervision, of course).

Children then come together in a circle on the large rug upstairs for a full-school meeting time, filled with songs, a simple prayer, calendar, weather observations and story time, all presided over by the school mascot, Cuddles the bear. Snack time (sometimes prepared by the



The main room at St. Philip's Parish House, decorated for the autumn season, serves as host for many of the children's activities.

Photo by A. Rooney

children, with a full cooking experience twice a month) follows meeting time, and then the children generally break out into smaller groups for different activities each day of the week.

Music and movement, taught by Chadwick, takes place on Mondays and Wednesdays; science, with a visit from dedicated science teacher Tam Benjamin, happens on Tuesdays and Thursdays and includes outdoor science activities, such as planning a garden. Spanish, with Maria Stein Marrison, is Friday's special activity. Teacher Melissa Angier praises the "full curriculum, and yet there's an old-fashioned, nurturing quality here, too, and lots of parent involvement."

The varying activities are often linked. For instance, on a morning *Philipstown.info/The Paper* visited, the study of hibernation during science was accompanied by an art project relating to what snakes do in winter, rolling out clay for mud, and covering the mud with cotton balls for snow. These in turn were joined by a song at meeting time whose lyrics asked and answered: "Are you sleeping, Little Snake? Time for hibernation. What

is your location? In the mud, in the lake." At meeting time Chadwick asked if any of the children would like to come and point out the word "snake" in a sentence that contained the word.

The latter part of the day is reserved for outdoors time; the large, fenced green area behind the Parish House holds both playground equipment and plenty of space for plain, old running-around time. Lots of nature walks are taken, too. The program also includes field trips and visits from many local entities.

"Our children go on to be very successful in school and in life," said Chadwick, who mentioned a request that came to her recently. "One 'boy' is now a lawyer, and he was hanging all of his diplomas in his new office, but he couldn't find his St. Philip's one. We re-did it for him, and now it's in his New York City office."

For more information on St. Philip's Nursery School, call Joanne Chadwick at 845-424-4209 or email stphilipsnurseryschool@gmail.com

This article is the eighth in a series on *Philipstown's nursery and pre-K schools*. For the others, visit philipstown.info.



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The Calendar



Above: Donna Lynne Champlin, her husband Andrew Arrow and their son enjoying Halloween on Parrott Street this year Photo courtesy of Champlin



Above: Two views of Donna Lynne Champlin on the job in *Working*

Image from the Old Globe production courtesy of Prospect Theater Company

Donna Lynne Champlin Is *Working* for a Living

OBIE-winning actress currently stars in the musical Working

By Alison Rooney

Donna Lynne Champlin is an OBIE winner, actress, singer, dancer, musician, writer, and relatively new resident of Philipstown — part-time for now, but likely to be more full-time once her young son begins school. A graduate of the prestigious musical-theater program at Carnegie-Mellon University, she has appeared on Broadway in *James Joyce's The Dead*, *Hollywood Arms*, *By Jeeves*, *Billy Elliot* and as Pirelli in John Doyle's seminal 2006 revival of *Sweeney Todd*. Champlin is currently busy on *Working*, a revival of the 1978 musical based on Studs Terkel's famous collection of oral histories of vocation in America, which is playing through Dec. 30 at the 59E59 Theater in Manhattan.

Champlin provided written answers to 20 questions posed by *Philipstown.info/The Paper* all connected with the theme of work, some in the broad sense of the word, others specifically related to her chosen profession. A few of those questions and answers follow; to read them all, visit philipstown.info.

***Working* is based on a 1974 work. How does it resonate today, and what changes have been made for this revival?**

As far as the core message *Working* is concerned with ... the show's intention hasn't really changed at all. And now that we're in another recession, there are even more parallels

to the '70s than just a few years ago when we did this production at the Old Globe [four years ago]. Most people are dealing with the same issues as 40 years ago; waitresses still deal with exhaustion, truckers still deal with being away from their families too much, and housewives still deal with identity crises.

Structurally, the show has been streamlined and trimmed to a tight 90 minutes. We've added some fabulous songs by *In The Heights*' Lin-Manuel Miranda, new orchestrations by the brilliant Alex Lacamoire, and we've addressed the issues of technology. We have brought in new characters who have to deal with tech support, computers, and given already-established characters a few lines to include what issues technology might have brought into their jobs. But the spine of the show, the celebration of anyone who's ever worked a day in their life remains untouched, because basic human truth is universal, and as we've discovered in this process, it never really changes no matter how much technology you throw at it.

You were quoted in a past interview: "Earnest people in absurd circumstances — you can't lose, really." The people you are playing now — are they earnest, and are their circumstances absurd in any way?

Well, this entire show is based on a collection of over 100 brutally earnest interviews by Studs Terkel, so whether our characters' situations are absurd varies to some degree as to what the

audience's perceptions are of what they do. Also, some of our characters come off as absurd precisely because of their earnestness, so there's that too. All our characters speak freely, which is the source of a lot of humor. This show is tremendously funny, which is unexpected by audiences sometimes. Some people say the trick to comedy is surprise, but in the case of *Working* I think a lot of it is familiarity. It's when a character says something about their job and you say to yourself, "Ooohhh I know what it's like to have that kind of boss," or "that kind of customer," you know? It's the recognition that someone with a totally different job than you still deals with the same stuff in some way or another.

The greatest challenge we actors face in *Working* is fleshing out our characters enough so the audience can experience them as three-dimensional people and not just caricatures. The whole point of the show really, is to open the books on all these people so we can look past their covers. Working people are working people. Our jobs may be very different on the surface, but deep down, our goals and frustrations and dreams are very similar, whether we're a hedge-fund manager or a stay-at-home mom. Again, truth is universal, and this whole show is just one big honest celebration of anyone who's ever worked a day in their life. It's one of my favorite shows I've ever done, and I'm thrilled to be doing it again.

In your work do you build a character from the inside out, or vice versa?

Some actors have a very specific plan of action when they come into a new show, and I completely respect that. I just prefer the "spaghetti" approach, which is throwing a bunch of ideas against the wall and seeing what sticks. Sometimes I know who a character is from the first audition, and sometimes I'll be still searching for her until I get in front of an audience. Sometimes it's the costume that clinches it, sometimes it's the accent, and sometimes it's how I'm reflected in my acting partner's choices; it could be anything really.

I like to remain open to what everyone else is bringing to the table. I think it's a mistake to underestimate the true collaboration that is the rehearsal process. Your director, the writers, and especially your fellow actors, they all become part of your process, and I just find it's easier in the long run to approach every new character in whatever way seems appropriate to that particular group of people. And it's not easy for me to do that. It's not my nature at all. I'm a total type-A control freak, but when I feed that fear of being "wrong" by doing copious amounts of research ahead of time, I end up really regretting the rigidity I walk in with. Of course, sometimes I risk being lost until the last minute, but I find this approach's ends justify the means in the long run.

Do you feel that being an actor is a job with an intrinsic value to society?

You know, I struggled a long time with that question ... (Continued on page 11)



Donna Lynne Champlin

Photo courtesy of Champlin

SITTING *on*
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



Bonjour tristesse. There's sadness at my home because we've lost our good friends, Craig and Scotty. They are the young brothers who ran the garage on 9D in Garrison which serviced and resurrected troubled vehicles, including ours. They were trustworthy, skillful and a delight to visit. Of course, they adored me. Well, they always made me welcome to sniff the lovely aromas in their office of oil, paper bag lunches and petroleum. For years and years, their garage was as much a fixture in Garrison as the church across the road and the school next door, neither of which I attended. I was never invited. For years and years we went to the garage for repairs and servicing of our cars. For the boss, it was almost a pleasure to pay the bill.

A few years ago when Craig and Scotty heard about a teenage girl whose father had died they offered to find her a car so that she could drive to and from her college. They donated a sickly vehicle and worked on it until it was smart again and in good running order. When the key was handed over, the girl was overcome. She wept.



But a few weeks ago they were told that after all those years the owner of the garage would not renew their lease. So last weekend after the boss had hugged them, I watched unhappily as the brothers packed their belongings and drove away for the last time. They said they didn't know what they were going to do. They might have to leave Philipstown.

There's irony here, mes amis, together with a shortage of mechanics. A motor cycle accident caused the disabled Kenny Elmes in Cold Spring to invite a Dunkin' Donuts franchise to occupy the three garage bays where vehicles were tended to. That has been approved and next year he will offer only gas to his customers. In a strange coincidence, Scotty in Garrison also had a motor cycle accident a few months ago and was unable to work for some weeks. Odd, oui?

However, there's nothing odd at the Country Goose where an array of Grab & Go Gifts are available for that unexpected guest who arrives at the last moment.



115 Main Street ❖ Cold Spring NY
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The Calendar

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

ONGOING

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revisited
WEDNESDAY THROUGH MONDAY THROUGH DEC. 31
9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Blow Your Own Ornament
DAILY THROUGH JAN. 1
10 A.M. - 6 P.M. (11 A.M. - 6 P.M. SUNDAY)
Hudson Beach Glass, 162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com

Student/Faculty Exhibition
Gene Garfinkle: Paintings, Pastels, Drawings
TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY THROUGH JAN. 6
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Holiday House Tours
WEDNESDAY THROUGH MONDAY THROUGH DEC. 31
10 A.M. - 3 P.M. (2:30 ON DEC. 15) BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the Hudson Highlands 1850-1950
WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY THROUGH DEC. 23
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

Kids & Community

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

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

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

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

BeaconArts Holiday Lounge
6:30 - 9 P.M. DOGWOOD
East Main and Water Streets, Beacon
beaconarts.org/artists/join

Family Night
6:30 - 9 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Friends of Boscobel Holiday Party
6:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Art & Design

Student/Faculty Exhibition (Opening)
6 - 8 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Music

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

Mighty Girl & Judith Tulloch Band
8 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

The Compact
9 P.M. MAX'S ON MAIN
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

Theater & Film

A Christmas Carol
7 P.M. BOSCOBEL | 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Youth Players)
7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

International Film Night: Millions
7 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Meetings & Lectures

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

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

Religious Services

Service at Beacon Hebrew Alliance
7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Service at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
8 P.M. 362 CHURCH, PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-4774 | ny069.urj.net

Sports

Haldane Ice Hockey vs. Mahopac
5:20 P.M. BREWSTER ICE ARENA
63 Fields Lane, Brewster
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Haldane Boys' Basketball vs. Chester
7 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

Kids & Community

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

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

Rocks and Minerals Workshop for Kids
10:30 A.M. - NOON. SOUTHEAST MUSEUM
67 Main St., Brewster
845-279-7500 | southeastmuseum.org


Wreaths Across America
11 A.M. VAN WYCK HOMESTEAD
504 Route 9, Fishkill
845-896-9560 | fishkillhistoricalsociety.org

Pet Pictures With Santa
11 A.M. - 4 P.M. MAHOPAC FEED BARN
155 Route 6, Mahopac | 845-225-7777 | puthumane.org | Suggested donation: \$15

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Holiday Movie Screening & Craft Fair

NOON - 6 P.M. BEAHIVE
291 Main St. Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Silk Screen Holiday Gifts

2 - 5 P.M. FABRICATION
17 East Main St., Beacon
845-202-3224 | fabricationbeacon.com

Meet the Animals

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

Wine Tasting

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

Free Admission to Children’s Museum

5 - 8 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Santacon Pub & Eat Crawl

6 P.M. BEGINS AT DIVISION STREET GRILL
26 N. Division St., Peekskill
downtownpeekskill.com
Crawlers dressed as Santa or other holiday-
inspired costumes receive discounts.

Peekskill Trolley at Bean Runner Café

6:30 P.M. POLAR EXPRESS TOUR
7 P.M. HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR
201 S. Division, Peekskill
914-739-5408 | peekskilltrolleycompany.com
Reservations required.

Sloop Club Holiday Hootenanny

7 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon | beaconsloopclub.org

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Free Community Yoga Class

11 A.M. THE ROUNDHOUSE
2 E. Main St., Beacon
roundhousebeacon.com/yoga.php
Please bring items to be donated to Hurricane
Sandy families in Breezy Point

Art & Design

Free Admission Saturday

9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Dia:Beacon Tour

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

Blue Collar Blues: Celebrating the Struggle and Satisfaction of Labor

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

Gene Garfinkle: Paintings, Pastels, Drawings (Opening)

2 - 4 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org | Snow date Dec. 16.

Richard Butler: Whenisaidilovedyouilled (Opening) | 6 - 9 P.M. MAD DOOLEY GALLERY

197 Main St., Beacon | 845-702-7045

Theater & Film

It’s a Wonderful Life (Film)

NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Scrooge

NOON. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front Street, Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

The Met: Live in HD: Verdi’s Aida

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

A Christmas Carol

4 & 7 P.M. BOSCOBEL | See details under Friday.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Youth Players)

4 & 7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Paraíso (Documentary)

6 P.M. BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE
333 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
beaconindiefilmfest.org

A Christmas Carol (Reading)

8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Music

A West Point Holiday With West Point Band

3 P.M. EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE
655 Ruger Road, West Point
845-938-4159 | ikehall.com

A Rockin’ Holiday Celebration

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

Nik Rael

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

Ziggy Stardust Tribute Show and Party

8 P.M. DOGWOOD
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | beaconmusicfactory.com

T Jay

9:30 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

Meetings & Lectures

Introduction to Buddhism

NOON. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
1350 Route 9, Garrison
914-522-9044 | maevetx1@optonline.net

Free Computer Help

2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
See details under Friday.

Religious Services

Services at Our Lady of Loretto

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

Living Nativity

5 P.M. TILLY FOSTER FARM
100 Route 12, Brewster
845-225-4586 | tillyfosterfarm.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Kids & Community

Santa Visits the Library

11 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Avenue, Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Mrs. Fezziwig’s Christmas Party

2 - 4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4988
bricktowntheatre.com | Call for reservations.

Pioneer Living Series: Holiday Gift Making

2 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Sweets & Treats with Santa

2:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL | 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Meet the Animals

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

Kids’ Open Mic Night

6 P.M. GRAPES | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Peekskill Trolley Holiday Lights Tour

6:30 P.M. BEAN RUNNER CAFÉ
See details under Saturday.

Art & Design

Blue Collar Blues: Celebrating the Struggle and Satisfaction of Labor

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

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(*Desmond Fish Library is not responsible
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Not suitable for children under 13)

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The Calendar (from page 9)

Photography Workshop

NOON - 5 P.M. BEAHIVE
291 Main St. Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Theater & Film

It's a Wonderful Life (Film)

NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Scrooge

NOON. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Music

A West Point Holiday With West Point Band

3 P.M. EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE
See details under Saturday.

Ukulele Group

3 - 5 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

A Chapin Family Christmas

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto

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

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

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

Grace United Methodist

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

St. Basil's Academy Greek Orthodox Chapel

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

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

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

Buddhist Meditation

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

South Highland Methodist Church

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

Quaker Friends Worship

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

St. Joseph's Chapel

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

Church on the Hill

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

First Presbyterian Church

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

Fourth Unitarian Society

10:30 A.M. 1698 STRAWBERRY ROAD, MOHEGAN LAKE | 914-528-7131 | fourthuu.org

United Methodist Church

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

Living Nativity

4 P.M. SAUNDERS FARM
Old Albany Post Road, Garrison

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

Kids & Community

Bridge Club

9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M., HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Indoor Tot Park

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

Middle School Concert

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

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Breast Cancer Support Group

10:15 A.M. MAHOPAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
668 Route Six, Mahopac
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Grandparenting 101

4 P.M. DEMPSEY HOUSE
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3257 | hvhc.org/events

Haldane Girls' Basketball vs. Henry Hudson

6 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Youth Basketball Skills/Drills (Grades 6-8)

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

Men's Basketball

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

Theater & Film

Scrooge

7:15 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Saturday.

The Impossible Plus Q&A With Director

J.A. Bayona | 7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front Street, Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

Music

Community Chorus

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

Meetings & Lectures

Nelsonville Board of Trustees

7 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

Zoning Board of Appeals (Stone Street shed)

7 P.M. COLD SPRING FIREHOUSE
154 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Historic District Review Board (Butterfield Demolition)

8 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL BOARD ROOM
15 Craigside Drive., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Religious Services

Eucharistic Adoration

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park

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

Highland Knitters

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

Kids Craft Hour

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

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Theater & Film

Jack Reacher Plus Q&A With Director and Tom Cruise | 7 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER | 364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

Haldane School Board Workshop

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

Cold Spring Planning Board

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

Cold Spring Board of Trustees

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

Women's AA Meeting

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

Religious Services

Bible Study

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

(Continued on next page)

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The Calendar (from page 10)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Kids & Community

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

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

Senior Shopping Trip to Fishkill
10 A.M. PICK-UP AT CHESTNUT RIDGE
10:15 A.M. PICK-UP AT PERKS PLAZA
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Preschool Story Hour
1:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison | 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Haldane Boys' Basketball vs. JJEF
6 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
7 P.M. PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Theater & Film

It's a Wonderful Life (Film)
7 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Auditions for God of Carnage
7 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

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

Philipstown Board Workshop
7:30 P.M. TOWN HALL | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Historic District Review Board (Butterfield Demolition Vote)
8 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Religious Services

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

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

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Kids & Community

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

Health, Sports & Outdoors

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

Breast Cancer Support Group
7 P.M. PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

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

Theater & Film

Lincoln With Tony Kushner Q&A
7 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Marville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Music

Rock & Jam Band Showcase
8:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES
12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Meetings & Lectures

Zoning Board of Appeals
7 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Philipstown Planning Board
7:30 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Religious Services

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

Assemblywoman Galef Introduces Bill to Ban Use of Fracking Byproducts

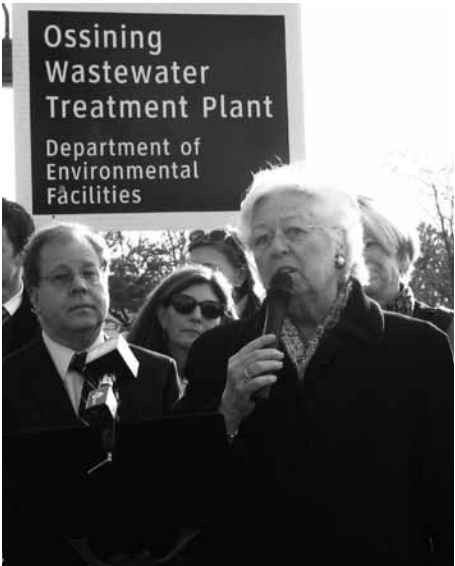
Asserts wastewater could harm beyond shale region

As New York state's Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) comment period on the controversial process of hydraulic fracturing (also known as hydro-fracking) for natural gas continued Wednesday, Dec. 12, Assemblywoman Sandy Galef announced she is introducing legislation to make sure that some of the negative impacts gas drilling can have will not

harm New Yorkers. "The chemicals that are used in the process of extracting natural gas from shale rock formations can have unintended consequences," said Galef. "We know that there is a toxic mix of chemicals needed in the high-pressured water used to blast through the layers of the earth. When that water comes back to the surface, companies are finding ways to dispose of this brine by selling it for use as a deicer and dust reducer on roadways. This contaminate water also is finding its way to wastewater treatment plants that do not

have the capability to adequately treat it. I want to make sure this type of product is not being used on our roadways, nor should we allow it to be sold through state contracts," she emphasized. Galef will introduce legislation at the beginning of the Assembly's 2013 session that will disallow use of fracking waste byproducts, which could harm the environment. Last year, the Assembly passed a moratorium calling for an extension on the period to decide if hydro-fracking should be legal in New York state to allow more time

for studying the impacts. While this effort did not pass the Senate, the governor recently issued orders calling for a health study, which the Assembly had also called for earlier this year, before the DEC could complete its recommendation.



Assemblywoman Sandy Galef announces plans to introduce legislation banning the use of fracking byproducts at a press conference on Wednesday, Dec. 12.

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



Saunders History Contest 2012 winners Eddie-Joe Barry, left, Elijah Deroche and George Weed, with their proud teacher, Mrs. Foppiano

Photo by A. Rooney

Saunders History Contest Winners Revealed at Reception

The Putnam History Museum's annual historical research project contest celebrated its 26 entrants, all seventh-graders at Garrison School and Haldane Middle School on Wednesday, Dec. 12. The winning students, whose names were announced that evening, are:

- First Place:** Elijah Deroche and George Weed, for their project on the Sloop Clearwater;
- Second Place:** Eddie-Joe Barry, for his work on Fort Clinton;
- Third Place:** Kaelin Martin, whose topic was the Bird and Bottle Inn.

Look for the full story to come at philipstown.info.

Donna Lynne Champlin Is Working for a Living (from page 7)

does what I do matter? Does what I do help people? Does what I do put more good out into the world than it takes? I knew it was my calling, but acting can be a very selfish vocation, and I felt very conflicted about it for years until we went on tour with *By Jeeves*. We were working our way around the country to Broadway via the Kennedy Center, just a few blocks from another sit-down tour, *Chicago*. Now, our show is about as opposite as you can get from *Chicago*. *Chicago* is sleek, sexy, mature and, in my opinion, one of the best musicals ever written. *By Jeeves* is basically a hot-air balloon full of very silly one-dimensional British people trying desperately to put on a banjo concert. I

left that performance of *Chicago* in tears because I thought, "Why am I not in THAT show? THAT show has substance. My show is just a big ball of fluff," and I made my way to our theater very depressed. I checked in at the call board, and there was a lovely handwritten note from a woman who had seen our show the night before. It basically said that she hadn't laughed since her husband had died almost two years ago ... until she saw our show. It was the fact that our show was so incredibly silly, stupid, and fluffy that she somehow found it in her to laugh at the sheer ridiculousness of it all. At the end of her note, she thanked us for doing for her what two years of constant

therapy couldn't. We made her laugh. It was then that I put to rest my concern about the nobility of acting. I really believe God was answering me by saying, "No matter if you're doing *By Jeeves* or *Chicago*, or whatever ... you have the opportunity to change someone's life." I also believe that for artists in general, our job is to non-judgmentally hold up a mirror to society. We should hold up the clearest mirror possible and then let the audience members each see what they need to see in that reflection. That's another great thing about the theater: its subjectivity. I may go see a show with 10 friends, and we might all walk away with 10 different experiences,

because it wasn't the show itself we were watching, but ourselves reflected back to us through what the show was trying to say. In that regard, theater is an invaluable part of society; it's a time machine. It can show us where we've come from, where we are, and it can even warn us as to where we're headed. Storytelling has been a part of mankind since the cavemen and will continue to be a vital part of the human experience as long as we exist. Tickets and more information about *Working* can be found at prospecttheater.org. For more on Donna Lynne Champlin, visit donnalynnechamplin.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BeaconArts Holds
Holiday Party at Dogwood

BeaconArts will celebrate the season at its annual Holiday Lounge and Winter Membership Drive on Friday, Dec. 14, starting at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at Beacon's newest venue, Dogwood, on East Main at Water Street.

Individual members in good standing are admitted free; others may join or renew at the party.

Business members in good standing are allowed two persons to enter free. Additional partners or employees are admitted at \$10 per person.

For more information, visit www.beaconarts.org/artists/join. BeaconArts also has a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/beaconarts.org

First Presbyterian Church
Celebrates 184 Years

On Sunday, Dec. 9, the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown observed the 184th year since its inception. During the morning worship service, three



Eve-Ann Kristiansen, left, Janet Selleck Rust, and Rose Champlin, the longest-term members of the First Presbyterian church of Philipstown

of the longest-term members of the congregation lit the candles on the Advent wreath for the second Sunday of Advent. These members are Janet Selleck Rust of Cold Spring, who joined the church on April 2, 1950; Rose Champlin of Cold Spring, who joined in March of 1955; and Eve-Ann Kristiansen of Garrison, who joined in March of 1956. During their tenure as members, they have seen the church building change completely, adding a fellowship hall, library, office and Sunday School room. They have seen the formation of the Hudson River Presbytery and 16 Installed Pastors of the church. Together, these three women have a combined experience of 175 years of church membership. As they stated on Sunday, "That's a lot of promises fulfilled, a lot of faith, and a lot of hope!"

GAC Winter and Spring
Class Schedule Available

Student/Faculty Show opens Dec. 14

The Garrison Art Center has released its class brochure for winter and spring, which offers a variety of classes to choose from. Many of their new classes are there again to give everyone a chance to take them. Visit the website, garrisonartcenter.org, to see the new schedule. Contact the Art Center for more information at 845-424-3960.

The 2012 Student/Faculty Show will be on exhibit Dec. 14 through Jan. 6. The opening reception will take place Friday, Dec. 14, 6 to 8 p.m. Handmade ornaments displayed on the

Art Tree can also be purchased. The Riverside Galleries are closed Dec. 24-28 and Jan. 1 but is open weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hot Chocolate Sale Raises
Money to Buy Presents for
Overseas Troops

Pre-K kids at The Nest have a personal connection to their cause

On Tuesday, Dec. 4, The Nest's pre-K class held its annual hot chocolate sale, which raises funds for U.S. troops overseas. Spearheaded by pre-K teacher Larissa Nordone (known to her class of 16 children as "Miss Larissa"), the group raised money to buy presents to send troops in Afghanistan for the holidays.



Larissa Nordone, left, and Jenn Weyant of The Nest with their hot chocolate-making pre-K students

Photo courtesy of Cecily Fluke

Nordone, whose brother Joey is currently deployed in Afghanistan, says the cause is near and dear to her heart. "The support that our parents show us is amazing each year," she said. "This sale that these children take on means so much to our troops, who are so far away from their families during the holiday season. I couldn't be more proud of my kids, and I'm grateful for everyone's support!"

Santa Escorted by North
Highlands Engine Co.

North Highlands Engine Co. 1 announces that Santa Claus will be on his big red sleigh visiting the community on Sunday, Dec. 23, bringing lots of holiday spirit and treats for the children. Santa will follow the schedule below, staying as close to the times as possible. We ask residents to please be patient and dress warmly. There are roads that will be toured and areas where there will be dedicated stops. The toured roads are wide enough and have low traffic, which allows us the ability to provide a safe area for Santa and children to meet.

New adjusted schedule with approximate times

Route #1

Noon (siren will sound): Truck will depart NHFD headquarters and proceed to the first stop at the intersection of Route 9 and East Mountain Road South.

12:10 p.m. Santa will tour Hiram Road, Joanne Place, Perk and Sons Court, and Perks Blvd., in that order.

12:45 p.m. Santa will return to East Mountain Road South to arrive at Fenichel Road, touring through Fenichel to Clove Brook Drive to end at cul-de-sac.

1:15 p.m. Santa will proceed back to Oak Ridge, to Hy-Vue Terrace, touring Hy-Vue and returning to East Mountain Road South.

1:45 p.m. Santa shall start the climb up East Mountain Road South, stopping

at Downey Lane and again in the area of Carlson's Greenhouse.

2:00 p.m. Santa will continue on East Mountain Road South to the intersection with Esselbourne. All residents of East Mountain Road South and North (above Esselbourne) and residents of Esselbourne are asked to meet at this intersection.

The truck will then return to NHFD headquarters for a break.

2:30 p.m. Santa will proceed north on Route 9 to the intersection of Route 9 and Horton Road.

2:40 p.m. Santa will proceed north to tour the Brookside Trailer Park.

2:50 p.m. Santa will proceed to tour Old Albany Post Road North and Mountain Brook Drive.

3:05 p.m. Next, Santa will stop at the Cold Spring Trailer Park.

3:15 p.m. Finally, Santa will tour Lyons Road and return to NHFD.

Route #2

Noon Santa's Big Red Sleigh will depart NHFD headquarters and proceed to the first stop at the Lake Surprise Road intersection.

12:10 p.m. Santa will tour Foreman Road.

12:25 p.m. Traveling north along Fishkill Road, Santa will turn onto Barrett Pond Road with a stop at Beale Road.

12:35 p.m. Santa will tour Beale Road to the intersection of Woods Road.

12:50 p.m. The truck will tour Wood's Road, then the remainder of Beale Road.

1:00 p.m. Santa will continue on Barrett Pond Road to the Valhalla Highland area for a stop on Highland Road at the mailboxes.

1:20 p.m. From Highland Road, Santa will travel to Hustis Road, making a stop at the intersection of Hustis Road, Beale Road, and Woods Road.

1:45 p.m. Santa will continue touring Hustis Road, travelling on to Knollwood Drive and then tour Knollwood Drive to the cul-de-sac.

The truck will then return to NHFD headquarters for a break.

2:30 p.m. Santa will proceed south on Route 9, making a first stop at the parking lot at the intersection of Jaycox Road. All residents of Jaycox Road are asked to meet Santa in this area.

2:55 p.m. Santa will continue further south on Route 9 to the Post Road Hardware store, where all residents of Lane Gate Road are asked to meet Santa.



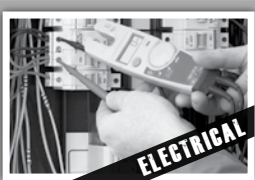

3:10 p.m. Traveling north on Route 9, Santa will enter the Post Road Trailer Park and tour the Park grounds.

3:30 p.m. Santa's last stop will be at Torchia Road and Route 9.

Note: Those residing on a high-traffic road (Route 9, Route 301, etc.) should try to meet Santa at designated stops. These stops were chosen for safety reasons, allowing Santa enough room to get his overgrown sled off the road. Also, parents should be careful with children near the road, as traffic is heavy this time of year.

For further information concerning the schedule, or to report any special circumstances, such as an ill or handicapped person (child or adult) who would like to see Santa and his elves, please call NHFD at 845-265- 9595, Ext. 11 in advance and leave a message if there is no answer. The fire department will do its best to accommodate everyone.

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Hudson Valley Seed Library Supports Glynwood Farm

Purchases benefit local farm

Glynwood is a great fan of the Hudson Valley Seed Library — a regional seed company selling regionally-adapted, heirloom seeds with histories in the Northeast.

From Dec. 10 to 19, 10 percent of all purchases from the Seed Library website will be donated to Glynwood. Just use the code “Glynwood.”

All seed varieties from the Hudson Valley Seed Library are open-pollinated, non-GMO, beautiful and tasty. Gift baskets stocked with heirloom seeds, membership kits and seed-pack art made by local artists are available for all gardeners. For more information or to order, visit seedlibrary.org.

Plan Ahead for Winter Activities Outdoors

Hudson Highlands Land Trust offers advice

Winter is a wonderful time to be outdoors — ice skating, skiing, sledding or hiking — and with children home from school, many people will want to bring them along, too. Although December has started off mildly, temperatures can drop quickly. Dress in layers, and don't underestimate the amount of food and water to bring. The human body works hard to keep warm.

Those who are not experienced winter hikers should stick to familiar trails and make sure to be home well before the sun sets. It may be best to plan in terms of time outside instead of distance travelled if hiking with small children. There's lots to see in winter — like birds' nests now visible on bare trees — and there should be time to enjoy it all.



Photo courtesy of HHLT

Take-A-Hike! volunteers needed

The Take-A-Hike! program includes hikes at all levels of difficulty that highlight the natural resources, history and beauty of the Hudson Highlands and the river towns and villages nestled within them. The hikers are a group of interested and engaged folks who appreciate a hike leaders' generosity, and HHLT is looking for people to lead new hikes. It's a great way to meet new people and share an appreciation of this region. Please email Kathy Hamel (kathy.hamel@hhlt.org) with ideas.

For more information about HHLT, visit their website, hhlt.org, or stop by the office at 20 Nazareth Way in Garrison, where there is also a selection of trail maps and products for sale.

Terry Gipson Joins A Christmas Carol Reading Dec. 15

Fall fund drive follows 'Dickens and Dessert'

Community leaders including County Legislator Richard Othmer, Kent Justice Peter Collins and newly-elected State Senator Terry Gipson are scheduled to join the cast of 28 characters in a reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at Arts on the Lake, 640 Route 52, Lake Carmel, on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 8 p.m.

“The story of *A Christmas Carol* is really the story of how we interact as a community,” said the Arts Center's Executive Director James Shearwood, “so

we have cast the reading from a wide range of the community.”

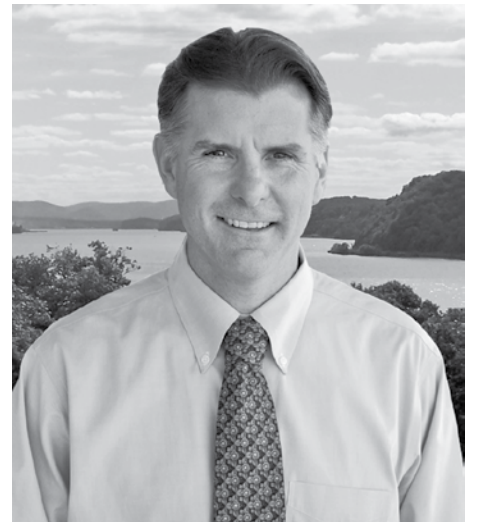
In addition to local political leaders, actors from the Blue Horse Repertory Company, members of Arts on the Lake, students from Carmel High School and the art classes at the center are scheduled to participate.

Arts on the Lake's tradition of reading the classic tale of redemption was initiated six years ago by the late actor Leo Burmester, when the local arts organization was being organized.

This version is a combination of the various scripts that have been used over the years.

Brian Keeler, a member of the Blue Horse Repertory Company, who will narrate the story, said he first encountered Terry Gipson at the Actors Theatre of Louisville when Keeler was an actor and Gipson was designing sets there. It was through this connection that Gipson was invited to participate.

Arts on the Lake expects to celebrate the completion of its Fall Fund Drive in which contributions to the local non-profit have been matched by a gift from the Anne Anastasi Charitable Foundation, immediately following the reading.



Senator-elect Terry Gipson

“Not only does Scrooge get a second life,” said Shearwood, “but Arts on the Lake does as well.”

Tickets for the evening, entitled “Dickens and Dessert,” are priced at \$12 (\$10 for AotL members) and may be purchased at rsvp@artsonthelake.org.

More information is available at www.artsonthelake.org or 845-228-2685.

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



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Haldane High School First Quarter 2012-13 Honor Roll

Principal's List

Grade 12: Thomas Califano, Simon Close, Caitriona Daly, Katherine Daponte, Sarah Diebboll, Daija Green, Maris Howell, Patrick Junjulas, Laura Kearns, Malinda Labriola, Diana Martinez, Kandence Neill, Claudia Percacciolo, Carolyn Schaefer, Bayley Semple, Aaron Seymour, Miranda Thompson, Richard Valentine, Stephen Zalys

Grade 11: Kieran Austin, Mary Callaghan, Luke Cleary, Rachel Conklin, Mina Elwell, John Hughes, Michelle McEwen, Nicole Pidala, Shauna Ricketts, Caroline Schweikhart, Sarah Warren, Hailey Wilson

Grade 10: Catherine Drotar, Jordan Erickson, Gianna Galazzo, Cameron Henderson, Wylie McDonald, Julia Olsen, Emmanuelle Palikuca, Samantha Ricketts, Marcus Zimmermann

Grade 9: Lucy Austin, Anna Birn, Carly Brief, Isabella Convertino, Marissa DiPalo, Jerome Famularo, Theodore Hen-

derson, Tobey Kane-Seitz, Sara Labriola, Marina Martin, Evan Pohlchuk, Melissa Tringali, Corydon Zouzias

High Honor Roll

Grade 12: Matthew Chason, Lauren Etta, Connor Filardo, Rebecca Garrison, Alexander Glorius, Jake Heitmann, Kiran Kalantri, Elizabeth Khadabux, Ryan Koval, Gustav Kristiansen, Benjamin Langer, Joseph Marigliano, Michelle Miller, Emilie Procario, James Rubino, Paulina Satsuk, Kelsey Scofield

Grade 11: Noah Campbell, Steven Casement, Matthew Drotar, Alison Duncan, Gareth Gore, Tess Hansler, Samantha Heanue, Emma Jacoby, Isabel Jimenez-Wisler, Gerianne Martin, John McCann, Tyler Mell, Clayton Smith

Grade 10: Jonathan Clemente, Peter Close, Jacob Cox, Aidan Draper, Henry Dul, McKenzie Flagler, Jayme Fox, Clifford Geller, Peter Hoffmann, Jakob Howell, Patricia Iniquez, Sara Jacoby, Joseph Kanlong, Emily Langer, Ryan McCollum

Alexandra Monteleone, Lola Nicholas, Cooper Nugent, Paige O'Toole, Vivian Panayotou, Lian Petrie, Zoe Provan, Soibhan Quigley, John Swartzwelder, Vanessa Uribe, Kelly Vahos, Trevor VanBrunt

Grade 9: Weronica Bajsicka, Nathaniel Barnette, Allisen Casey, Daniel Cerqueira, Maisy Curto, David DeCaro, Peter Duffy, Benedicta Geithner, Macdara Heanue, Stephen Junjulas, Jillian Maldonado, Allison Marino, Dante Nastasi, John Parr, Jack Revkin, Eric Rizzi, Clara Thompson, Adele Westerhuis

Honor Roll

Grade 12: Gabriela Carnabuci, Nicklas, Clemente, Matthew Forlow, Mark Frisenda, Skye Horgan, Samantha Kapsas-Murarik, Matthew Marino, Luke Rodzel, Sarah Rodzevik, Owen Thomas

Grade 11: Aaron Culotta, Maya Curto, Nicholas D'Antoni, Brianna DeFrancesco, Kenneth Doxey, Danielle Ferris, George Fibble, Hannah Frith, Aidan Gallagher, David Hamel, Collin Harrington,

Jessica Harrison, Dillon Kenny, Emma Kimmel, Katherine Lahey, Alec Lane, Samantha Lisikatos, Jackson Lisotta, Alison Meeks, Ryan Moran, Lana Ness, Steven O'Dell, Carlos Perez, Kelin Petkus, John Rotando, Brandon Rucker, Sophie Rust, Rocky Shiga, Quinlan Silverstein, Anthony Valencia, Sabrina Vuksta

Grade 10: Connor Allen, Matthew Balducci, Melissa Biavati, Christopher Bohl, Charlotte Cleary, Edmund Fitzgerald, Tanner Froats, Tyler Giachinta, Samandeep Gosal, Peter McGovern, Carina Meng, Fiona Mueller, Kaitlyn Phillips, Max Silverman, Jenna van der Merwe, Conor Yankovich

Grade 9: Christian Bach, Michael Bentkowski, Jessica Ceravole, Nicholas Chiera, Clare Dahlia, Nicole Etta, Tess Foster, Corbett Francis, Elena LaBreche, Jack Lovell, Bailey McCollum, Leandra Rice, Simon Scott-Hamblen, Austin Semple, Nolan Shea, Aubrey Stowell, Sophia Traina, Rebecca Yodice, Jason Zielinski

Garrison School Honor Roll Announced

Honors for 2012-13 first-quarter performance

Principal's List

Grade 8: Isabelle Davis, Anna Northup, Edmund Northup, Alexandra Vourliotis, Paul Walker

Grade 7: Edward Barry, Keifer Convertino, Elijah DeRoche, Henry Driscoll, David Higbee, Alex Mancuso, Kaelin Martin, Lucinda Strol, George Weed

Grade 6: Robin Ben Adi, Henry Weed

High Honor Roll

Grade 8: Chloe Davis, Amanda Erickson, Katherine Lisotta, Elizabeth Osborn, Emma Parks, Juliette Raynaud, Sophia Sburlati, Shawn Sharifi

Grade 7: Bridget Batignani, Derek Champi, Augustus Dupree, Alexa Gagnon, Alexandria Sharpley, Yunus Solakoglu, Joshua Wimer, Eleanor Young

Grade 6: Sydney Cottrell, Jack Kelly, Katelyn Pidala, Hanna Scali

Honor Roll

Grade 8: Aidan Campbell, Jacob Hard, Sarah Kelly, Natalie Lansbury, Harper Levy, Ethan Penner, Emma Scali, Colin Waldron

Grade 7: Alexandra Angelopoulos, Hudson Gell, Brian Kelly, Rose Lindbergh-McDonnell, Raymond O'Rourke, Cameron Palikuca, Nicolette Thompson

Grade 6: Devin Heanue, Benjamin McGowan, Spencer Rockmore, Brad Dowd

Haldane Middle School's First Quarter 2012-13 Honor Roll

Principal's List

Grade 8: Amelia Allison, Josephine Altucher, Alexandra Cinquanta, Teresa Figueiras, Brian Haines, Hannah Langer, Marissa Lisikatos, Ruby McEwen, Kyra Moskowitz, Catherine Parr, Andrew Platt, Jeremy Roffman, Jaan Rothenberg, Grace Seward, Hali Traina, Brook Vahos

Grade 7: Jessica Casey, Amelia Hall, Nicole Mitchell, Miranda Musso, Jonas Petkus, Chloe Schwartz, Olivia Sterling, Dylan Waller

High Honor Roll

Grade 8: Morrigan Brady, Mary-Margaret Dwyer, John Liam Eng-Wong, John Farrell, Alice Flanagan, Rebecca Gore, Michael Harmancin, Morgan Hotaling, Michaela Khadabux, Isabelle Laffer, Jocelyn Lane, Alessandra LaRocco, Madison-Taylor Lee, Liam Macnamara, Hannah Monteleone, Tanya Needham, Samantha Phillips, Tiam Schaper, Evan Schweikhart, Nikki Shiga, Nicolas Ster-

ling, Cassandra Traina, Seth Warren

Grade 7: Sophia Azznara, Gabriele Baumann, Aidan Cimino, Mario Cofini, Luke Difucci, Nicholas Farrell, George Leiter, William Martin, Mae McGrath, Makenzie Patinella, Claire Reid, Daniel Rotando, Brett Schwartz, Anthony Sinchi, Abbey Stowell, Mackenzie Tokarz, Kyle Zimmermann,

Honor Roll

Grade 8: Sophia Carnabuci, Blaine Fitzgerald, Will Heintzman, Justin Maldonado, Andrew Mikalsen, Christopher Pidala, Dara Ricketts, Corina Schmidt, Cole Sussmeier

Grade 7: Selena Ayala, Emily Azznara, Kevin Barry, Allison Chiera, Jack Cimino, Joseph DiGregorio, Nicholas DiPalo, Victor Fina, Liam Irwin, Luke Junjulas, Anthony Lombardo, Tara Pidala, Valerie Scanga, Nicole Shubert, Aidan Siegel, Michael Tacuri, Brandon Twoguns, Andre vanDommele, Jared Wigdor, Heather Winne, Victoria Wyka

Draft Garrison School Board Goals Reflect Community Input (from page 5)



Garrison School Principal Stephanie Impellittere shows off the newly arrived Philipstownopoly board game, a fundraiser by the Garrison and Haldane PTAs, at the Board of Education meeting Dec. 12.

Photo by J. Tao

implement grant opportunities and seek other sources of outside funding to enhance the instructional program and professional development opportunities,” both of which were suggested and requested by many during the public workshops.

Parent David Gelber said to the board, “I think that you guys have been extraordinarily responsive to issues that we’ve raised.” He repeated his request for the board to provide childcare during their meetings so that more parents could

attend, but some members said that they had tried that and other ways in the past to increase attendance with no improvement in attendance.

Another parent, Stacy Labriola, spoke effusively of the work of the teachers, administrators and board members at Garrison School, and in particular praised the new parents coming to the meetings with fresh ideas, like Gelber and Derek Dubois, who were present through the Wednesday meeting as well as many of the workshops and meetings. Labriola suggested, however, that teachers should take turns to attend the board meetings, “just to keep informed and see that parents aren’t attacking them.” Board members mentioned that there had been teacher presence at previous meetings but were not sure why there wasn’t someone representing them Wednesday

evening. Labriola ended by saying, “For the record, I love this school. It was great for my kids.”

“I commend the administration. You did a nice job capturing a lot of input,” said Dubois, who had at a workshop presented a set of recommendations drawn up by a group of parents. (That document can be viewed on the school’s website, gufs.org, under the Board of Education tab in the Board Goals and Goals Workshops section.)

Tweaking the draft

During board discussion of the draft goals and objectives, board members brought up points that should be included, such as athletics and physical education, and a desire for more concrete and measurable outcomes, such as for the objectives to “identify and increase the use of varied differentiation instructional strategies in every classroom” and “identify and build community partnerships to generate improved communication.”

Colucci argued that specifying a percentage change in the use of differentiated instructional strategies would be difficult, since different teachers already use such strategies at varying levels, but that there would be an evaluation of their use by administrators in classroom observations. She also explained that the language for building community part-

nerships for communication was vague because those partnerships are as yet unknown.

A final draft of the goals and objectives, with changes discussed at the meeting, will be presented at the board’s next meeting on Jan. 2 for approval.

Against over-testing

Colucci and Board Members Anita Prentice and Theresa Orlandi also presented about a superintendent and board workshop given by the Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association that they attended on Nov. 8 in Tarrytown, at which Monty Neill, executive director of the National Center for Fair and Open Testing (FairTest.org), spoke on *How Standardized Testing Damages Education and What We Can Do About It*.

Board members pointed out Monday’s (Dec. 10) *Washington Post* report that Maryland’s Montgomery County Superintendent Joshua Starr said “the country needs a three-year moratorium on standardized testing and needs to ‘stop the insanity’ of evaluating teachers according to student test scores because it is based on ‘bad science.’”

While recognizing that assessments are essential tools in education, FairTest opposes the overwhelming amount of high-stakes standardized testing that is being imposed by *(Continued on next page)*

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(from previous page)

federal and state governments. Prentice asked the board to consider signing onto FairTest’s National Resolution on High-Stakes Testing. Board President Raymond O’Rourke said they would discuss amending the resolution for approval after first approving the board goals and objectives at subsequent meetings.

More testing

Colucci announced that parents of a high school junior and alum of Garrison School have requested that the school offer SAT preparation courses this year. The school has in the past offered SAT prep courses through Princeton Review when a minimum number of high school juniors are interested in enrolling in them, and Colucci will notify parents of the possibility of holding them again this year.

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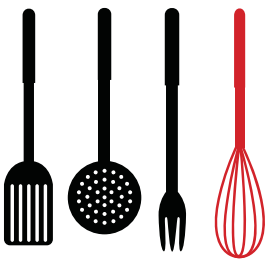
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