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.”

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.

Butterfield Rezoning Likely to Depend on Concept Plan

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

By Liz Schetchuk 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.
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.

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 primaury 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 create 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 sandwich.要求 properly tempered chocolate, 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 nearly squeaked for joy.

Chocolate-pecan cookies

The same incantation is less effective on those of us who have lived through more than a few holiday seasons. Say “Christmas” six or seven times, and you might notice something more like an anxiety attack setting in. I do, anyway. By Celia Barbour

Menus to Feed

Chocolate-pecan cookies

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 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
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Chocolate-pecan cookies

Chocolate-pecan cookies

½ cup pecans, plus more for decorating
2 tablespoons sugar, plus more for decorating
⅓ cup flour
1/3 cup plain unsweetened cocoa powder
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
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-sugar 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.

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Join The Paper’s Holiday Photofest

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.
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 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 Planning 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 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 laws 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,” 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 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 isn’t R1 zoned, 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 made it appear that what was under discussion was a “semi-permanent language” so that 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 (HDBR),” O’Rourke said. Holding jurisdiction over tear-downs, the HDBR 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 [rezoning] 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 stage you’ve going to have to take a hard look.”

Thank you, Barbara DeSilva.

The Chapel Restoration has successfully concluded another season of its annual Sunday Music Series, the twelfth since the series began, under our Artistic Director, Barbara DeSilva of Garrison.

Success measured in the range of world renowned musicians that Barbara has consistently attracted to our area – vocalists and instrumentalists, soloists, duos, trios, quartets and larger groups, classical, jazz, blues and gospel. Not one of them has failed to mention the beauty of our historic Chapel, the acoustics, which we are right in describing as equals to any of the world’s premier concert halls, and the enthusiasm of those who come to hear them on Sunday afternoons, once a month, April to November.

Success measured, too, in the audiences we increasingly attract, standing room only sometimes, with people happy to listen from the porches or the lawn. These concerts are offered without charge, but the donation basket fills every time.

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
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 marri-
riage. We remember all the way back to Gas’ Antique Bar and the lumber yard that used to be where Paul Guillaro de-
veloped the beautiful condos at the wa-
terfront. When the corner unit became available for rent, we were positively de-
lighted; we hoped 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 vil-
lage. The annual Christmas tree lighting, the July 4th celebration, the Hallowe’en 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, ser-
vie, 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 Contract-
ing) 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, repaning, new floors, new cabi-
nets, 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 in-
stalled on the second floor so we could function until the first floor had been re-

стро. 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 Thanks-
giving 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, efficien-
cy, 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 Em-
pire 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-cen-
tury self. I have done much of the work myself, including hand-building and in-
stalling 22 large, arched, wooden storm windows to replace modern aluminum windows that hid the beautiful curves that are a characteristic of Hudson River ar-
chitecture. 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 prop-
erty 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’ve made.

The HDRB is now weighing whether to allow the demolition of the Butterfield Hospital. The board has issued several papers suggesting it favors rejecting the application to demolish. I hope that it will reconsider.
The historic value of Butterfield Hospi-
tal’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 governing the HDRB is to protect the 19th-century character of the building. 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 sup-
port of the community, and can no lon-
gor 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

Odel can not make guarantees on Butterfield development
Dear Editor,
Just a quick cautionary note regard-
ing the article concerning the But-
terfield Zoning issue, which was presented in Nov. 29 on Philipstown.info (and the Nov. 30 edition of The Paper). County gov-
ernment is made up of two distinct and separate branches of government: the ex-
ecutive branch and the legislative branch.

Executive Odel’s opinion on the Guillaro Butterfield Project is Executive Odel’s opinion and should not be construed or confused as representing the Putnam County Legislature. Ultimately, five mem-
bers 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 guaran-
tees can be made by anyone representing county government on the Guillaro But-
terfield Project or any project will garner the necessary support when the expend-
iture 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 de-
pendent upon government spending.

Last year the county declined a propos-
il to install county services at Butterfield.

Audio recordings of this year’s meet-
ings 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 in-
sulting comments about our neighbors on the HDRB made by people who have con-
fused the reality of the county budget with political promises that may not be fulfilled.

Sincerely, 
Stephanie Hawkins

Cold Spring

FOR CONTENT YOU CAN ONLY SEE ONLINE, VISIT

Philipstown info

• The Philter: a new video blog produced by Emily Lansbury and Marit McCabe
• 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

www.philipstown.info/philistlist

LETTERS

Reporter Position Available
Philipstown.info/The Paper seeks an individual with proven journalistic experience for regular story assignments, involving both new event coverage and longer form news features.

Send expression of interest and resume to editor@philipstown.info.
Giving Abounds in Philipstown (from page 1)

Come rain or shine, snow or early darkness, Locaparra and her son take turns 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, 845-265-2841.

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 gifts of food and clothing to the families as well.

Lisa Contini, 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 accepted through Dec. 21. For more information or to give a gift, visit haldanapta.org or email Luz Bailey at eileenap@sptonline.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 Conlin and Danielle Corncasho “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 TFTFP2441@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 Law- rence 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, 6 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 of toys 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 Cuucci, the board’s previous goals were mainly retained for 2012-2015, since feedback on the existing goals was mostly positive, even if there were concerns about whether the school was meeting those goals. Cuucci slightly amended the draft’s 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, 2013-2016. Cuucci 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 students at their individual ability levels), to further incorporate technology in the classroom, 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)
The ducks are studying science while the rabbits are making collages. No, it’s not a scene out of a surreal 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.

Those rabbits studying science are the youngest 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 of 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 uppers for a 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 staff) 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 Harrison, 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 at Philipstown.

info/The Paper, the study of hibernation during science was accompanied by an art project relating to what snakes do in winter, rolling out clay for hibernation during science was accompanied by an art project relating to what snakes do in winter, rolling out clay for hibernation during science was accompanied by an art project relating to what snakes do in winter, rolling out clay for the varying activities are often linked. For instance, on a morning at Philipstown, info/The Paper, the study of hibernation during science was accompanied by an art project relating to what snakes do in winter, rolling out clay for the varying activities are often linked. For instance, on a morning at Philipstown, info/The Paper, the study of hibernation during science was accompanied by an art project relating to what snakes do in winter, rolling out clay for...
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 risk being lost until the last minute, but I end up really regretting the rigidity I walk in with. Of course, it’s the accent, and sometimes it’s how I’m reflected in my acting partner’s eyes. Sometimes it’s how a character says the trick to comedy is surprise, but in my case of Working I completely respect that. 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 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)
The Calendar
Looking for things to do 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

Reflectations Renewal: Hudson River Images Revised
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 PM. (2:30 ON DEC. 15) BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the Hudson Highlands: LESO-LESO
WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY THROUGH DEC. 23
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4000 | 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
51 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
845-440-6533 | artisanwineshop.com

Wine and Cheese
5 - 8 P.M. ARTISAN BOOKS
29 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867 | antipodac.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
845-631-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

The Compact
9 P.M. MALE’S ON MAIN
248 Main, Beacon
845-633-6297 | massomain.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 DEPT THEATRE
10 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-9000 | philipstowndepttheatre.com

International Film Night: Millions
7 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-633-1134 | beaonlibrary.org

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help
2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3000 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Beginner AA Meeting
8 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-5220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Religious Services

Service at Beacon Heaveen Alliance
7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON
845-831-2012 | beaconheavenalliance.com

Service at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
8 P.M. 362 CHURCH, PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-4774 | mygl69@nyc.net

Sports

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

Haldane Boys’ Basketball vs. Chester
7 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaleschool.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

Cold Spring Farmers’ Market
8-10 A.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN | 10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-5220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Food Pantry
9 - 10 A.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN | 10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-5220 | 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 WICK RESIDENCE
504 Route 8, Fishkill
845-888-9560 | fishkillhistoricalsociety.org

Pet Pictures With Santa
11 A.M. - 4 P.M. MAHOPAC FEED BARN
156 Route 9, Mahopac
845-225-7777 | puthumane.org | Suggested donation: $15
Holiday Movie Screening & Craft Fair
See details under Friday.
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
Free with admission.
4 & 7 P.M. PhiloStoWn dePot theatre
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Youth Players)
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-528-2500 | artofthelake.org
Music
A West Point Holiday With West Point Band
3 P.M. EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE
655 Rugar Road, West Point
845-938-4119 | kwilah.com
A Rockin’ Holiday Celebration
8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 Ext. 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org
Nik Kold
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-205-2012 | whistlingwillies.com
Ziggy Stardust Tribute Show and Party
8 P.M. DOGDWOOD
47 E. Main St, Beacon
845-202-7500 | beaconstreettheatre.com
T Jay
9:30 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6207 | maxsonmain.com
Meetings & Lectures
Introduction to Buddhism
NOON. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
3950 Route 9, Garrison
914-522-9044 | greymoor.org
Free Computer Help
2 P.M. DESMOND-FLY SHIP LIBRARY
See details under Friday.
Religious Services
Services at Our Lady of Loreto
4:30 P.M. RECONCILIATION
3:30 P.M. SATURDAY VIGIL
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-205-3718 | ourladyofloretoscoc.com
Living Nativity
5 P.M. TILLY FOSTER FARM
100 Route 12, Brewster
845-226-4586 | tillyfosterfarm.org
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16
Kids & Community
Santa Visits the Library
11 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Avenue, Cold Spring
845-205-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Mrs. Fezziwig’s Christmas Party
2 - 4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-838-4088 | bricktowntheatre.com | Call for reservations.
Pioneer Living Series: Holiday Gift Making
2 - 4 P.M. CONCORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-234-4244 | commonground.org
Sweets & Treats with Santa
3:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1605 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
Paraiso (Documentary)
6 P.M. BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE
333 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
beaconindiefilmfest.org
A Christmas Carol (Readings)
8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel
845-228-2685 | artsontthehike.org
Meet the Animals
2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-532-7789 | hewtrustmuseum.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 Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | michm.org
Sanctuary Pub & Eat Grill
6 P.M. BEGINS AT DIVISION STREET GRILL
20 E. Division St., Peekskill
914-739-5408 | beaconstreettheatre.com
Peeksilk 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 | beaconstreettheatre.com
Reservations required.
Sloop Club Holiday Hootenanny
7 P.M. SLOOP CLUB
2 Red Frlyn Drive, Beacon | beaconsloupclub.org
Health, Sports & Outdoors
Free Community Yoga Class
11 A.M. THE ROUNDTOWN
2 E. Main St., Beacon
roundhousebeacon.com/yoga.php
Please bring items to be donated to Hurricane Sandy families in Breyee Point
Art & Design
Free Admission Saturday
9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1605 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
Dia/Beacon Tour
1 P.M. 3 BECKMAN ST., BEACON
845-440-0100 | dia beacon.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
Gone Garfinke! Paintings, Pastels, Drawings (Opening)
2 - 4 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
Richard Butcher: WhoseAidlovetyouOn/ (Opening) | 6 - 9 P.M. MAD DOGGY GALLERY
197 Main St., Beacon | 845-702-7045
Theater & Film
It’s a Wonderful Life (Film)
See details under Friday.
NOON. JACOB BURBS FILM CENTER
364 Maryland Rd, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.com
Screening
NOON. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front Street, Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.org
The Mat: 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. PHILADELPHIA DEPOT THEATRE
See details under Friday.
Paraiso (Documentary)
6 P.M. BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE
333 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
beaconindiefilmfest.org
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845-228-2685 | artsontthehike.org
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9:30 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6207 | maxsonmain.com
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2 P.M. DESMOND-FLY SHIP LIBRARY
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Religious Services
Services at Our Lady of Loreto
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3:30 P.M. SATURDAY VIGIL
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1605 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
Meet the Animals
2:30 - 3:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
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.
South Highland Methodist Church  9:30 A.M. 10 SHANK MILL ROAD, GARRISON  845-265-3365
Quaker Friends Worship  10 A.M. WHITTEN HOME  845-424-9255  Call for directions.
St. Joseph’s Chapel  10:15 A.M. 14 VESTPARK ROAD, GARRISON  845-265-3178  nusruflyforetrecoots.org
Church on the Hill  10:30 A.M. 245 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING  845-265-2022  coldspringchurchnorthend.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
Four Unitarian Society  10:30 A.M. 1689 STRAWBERRY ROAD, MOHAGAN LAKE  914-528-7332  forthuul.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. 10:30:30 A.M. 10:30:30 A.M. ROWLAND CULTURAL CENTER  477 MAIN ST., BEACON  845-831-4988  howlandculturalcenter.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**

**Hudson Valley Occupational Therapy for Kids, PLLC**

**Getting stronger one kid at a time**

**Specializing in:**

- Sensory Integration and Auditory Programming
- Equine Assisted Therapy
- Hippotherapy

**Grandparenting 101**

4 P.M. DEMPSEY HOUSE  1920 Crompond Road, Cortland Manor  914-734-3257  nhvc.org/events

**Haldane Girls’ Basketball vs. Henry Hudson**

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

**Youth Basketball Skills/Drills (Grades 6-8)**

6:15 - 7:15 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER  10 Gannett St, Garrison  845-424-4618  philipstownrecreation.com  Cost: $5 53; Philipstown residents only.

**The Impossible Plus Q&A With Director J.A. Bayona**

7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER  15 Fair St., Newburgh  845-561-3066  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 Streetshed)**

7 P.M. COLD SPRING FIREHOUSE  154 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING  845-265-3611  coldspringny.gov

**Historic District Review Board (Butterfield Development)**

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

**Religious Services**

**Eucharistic Adoration**

7 P.M. OUR LADY OF LORETO  24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING  845-265-3718  nusruflyforetrecoots.org

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18**

**Kids & Community**

**Indoor Tot Park**

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

**Highland Knitters**

NOON, DESMOND-FOSS LIBRARY  472 Route 403, Garrison  845-424-3000  desmondfosslibrary.org

**Kids Craft Hour**

4 P.M. DESMOND-FOSS LIBRARY  472 Route 403, Garrison  845-424-3000  desmondfosslibrary.org

**Health, Sports & Outdoors**

**Breast Cancer Support Group**

7 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION  34 Triangle Center, Suite 200, Yorktown Heights  800-534-2400  supportconnection.org

**Theater & Film**

**Jack Rosenzweig Plus Q&A With Director and Tom Cruise**

7 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER  364 Main Street, Pleasantville  914-745-5555  burnfilmcenter.org

**Meetings & Lectures**

**Haldane School Board Workshop**

7 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL  15 Cragside 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 PRESIDENTIAN CHURCH  10 Academy St., Cold Spring  845-265-9220  presbychurchcoldspring.org

**Religious Services**

**Bible Study**

7 P.M. OUR LADY OF LORETO  24 Fair St., Cold Spring  845-265-3718  nusruflyforetrecoots.com

**(Continued on next page)**
Assemblywoman Galef Introduces Bill to Ban Use of Fracking Byproducts

As a 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 by selling it for use as a deicer and dust reducer on roadways. This contaminates 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.

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 Doroch 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.
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

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 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, 1955; 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 tree are sold at the opening. The show will conclude Jan. 6.

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 announced that Santa Claus will be on his big sleigh visiting the community on Sunday, Dec. 13. Santa’s Big Red Sleigh will tour the Brookside Trailer Park and tour the Park grounds.

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.
Hudson Valley Seed Library Supports Glynwood 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

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.

Terry Gipson Joins A Christmas Carol Reading Dec. 15

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

Brian Keefer, 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 Keefer 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 nonprofit have been matched by a gift from the Anne Anastasi Charitable Foundation, immediately following the reading.

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.

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.

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 formed. The reading is a combination of the various scripts that have been used over the years.

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Haldane School First Quarter 2012-13 Honor Roll

Principal's List
Grade 12: Thomas Califano, Simon Close, Catriona Daly, Katherine Dapon- te, Sarah Diebball, Daja Green, Maris Howell, Patrick Juqvalls, Laura Kearns, Malinda Labriola, Diana Martine, Ka- dence Neill, Claudia Percaccio, Carolyn Schaefer, Bayley Semple, Aaron Seymour, Miranda Thompson, Richard Valentine, Stephen Zalys
Grade 11: Kieran Austin, Mary Cal- laghan, Luke Cleary, Rachel Conklin, Mina Elwell, John Hughes, Michelle McEwen, Nicole Pidala, Shauna Ricketts, Caroline Sch- weikart, Sarah Warren, Harley Wilson
Grade 10: Catherine Drotar, Jordan Erickson, Galina Galazzo, Cameron Henderson, Wylie McDonald, Julia Of- ses, Emmanuel Palikau, Samantha Ricketts, Marcus Zimmermann
Grade 9: Lucy Austin, Anna Birn, Car- ly Brief, Isabella Covarrubias, Marissa Di- Pala, Jerome Faiman, Theodora Hen- derson, Tobey Kane-Seitz, Sara Labriola, Marina Martin, Evan Poholchuk, Melissa Tringali, Cordyson Zourias
High Honor Roll
Grade 12: Matthew Chason, Lauren Ett, Connor Filardo, Rebecca Garri- son, Alexander Glorius, Jake Hettman, Kiran Kalantri, Elizabeth Khababux, Ryan Koval, Gustav Kristiansen, Benja- min Langer, Joseph Marigliano, Michele Miller, Emilie Procario, James Rubino, Paulina Satuskis, Kelsey Scefofield
Grade 11: Noah Campbell, Steven Cagney, wentworth, Matthew Drotar, Jordan Duncan, Gareth Gove, Tess Hanler, Sa- mantha Heanne, Emma Jacoby, Isabel Jimenez-Wier, Giovanna Martin, John McCann, Tyler Miel, Clayton Smith
Grade 10: Jonathan Clemente, Peter Close, Jacob Cox, Aidan Draper, Henry Dol, McKenzie Flager, Jayne Fos, Clif- ford Geller, Peter Hoffman, Jakob How- ell, Patricia Iniguez, Sara Jacoby, Joseph Kanlong, Emily Langer, Ryan McColm

Garrison School Honor Roll Announced
Honors for 2012-13 first-quarter performance
Principal's List
Grade 8: Isabelle Davis, Anna Nordhorn, Edmund Northrup, Alexandra Vour- iotis, Paul Walker
Grade 7: Edward Barry, Keifer Convertino, Elijah DeRoche, Henry Driscoll, David Higbee, Alex Manacova, Kaelin Martin, Lucinda Strol, George Weed
High Honor Roll
Grade 8: Chloe Davis, Amanda Erickson, Katherine Lisotta, Elizabeth Os- born, Emma Parks, Juliette Raynand, Sophia Shurtani, Shawn Sharfi
Grade 7: Bridget Batignani, Derek Champi, Augustus Dupree, Alixa Ga- gnon, Alexandra Sharpley, Yusus Solakoglu, Joshua Wisdom, Eleanore 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, Emily Scali, Colin Waldron
Grade 7: Alexander Angelopoulos, Hudson Allion, Brian Kelly, Rose Lindberg-McConnell, Ryan O’Rourke, Cameron Palikau, Nicolette Thompson
Grade 6: Devin Heanne, 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 Cantuera, Teresa Figueroa, Brian Haines, Hannah Langer, Morgan Lisatko, Ruby McElven, Kyle Moskowitz, Catherine Parr, Andrew Platt, Remy Roffman, Juan Rothenberg, Grace Seward, Hali Traina, Broke Valos
Grade 7: Jessica Casey, Amelia Hall, Michelle Miranda, Munso Musso, Jonas Petkus, Chloe Schwartz, Olivia Sterling, Dylan Vyner
High Honor Roll
Grade 8: Morrigan Brady, Mary- Margaret Dwyer, John Lian Eng-Wong, John Farrell, Alice Flanagan, Rebecca Gore, Michael Harmanick, Morgan Ho- taling, Michaela Khadabux, Isabel Lai- fer, Jocyen Lane, Alessandra LaRocco, Madison-Taylor Lee, Liam Macnamara, Hannah Monteleone, Tanya Needham, Patricia Penski, Samanatha Pilkau, candles Thompson, Samanatha Tordi, Michelle VanDommele, Jared Wigdor, Heather Winne, Victoria Wyka
Grade 6: William Martin, Brandon Twoguns, Andrew VanDommele, Dara Pidala, Rick Schettini, Corin Schiff, Cole Susmeyer

Implement grant opportunities and seek other sources of outside funding to en- hance the instructional program and professional development opportuni- ties,” 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 extraordin- arily 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 in- crease attendance with no improve- ment in attend- ance.

Another parent, Stacy Labriola, spoke effusively of the work of the teachers, ad- ministrators and board members at Garrison School, and in particular praised the new parents coming to the meetings with fresh ideas. Her Gelber Dubois, who were present through the Wednesday meeting as well as many of the workshops and meetings. Labriola said, however, that teachers said they were going to turn up at the board meet- ings, “just to keep informed and see what was going on.” She said, “In the board meetings mentioned that there had been teacher presence at previous meet- ings 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 commended the administration. You did a nice job capturing a lot of input,” said Dubois, who had at a workshop pre- sented a set of recommendations drawn up by a group of parents. (That docu- ment can be viewed on the school’s web- site, gufs.org, under the Board of Educa- tion and What We Can Do About It.

Students of the National Center for Fair and Open Test- ing and What We Can Do About It.

Students of the National Center for Fair and Open Test- ing and What We Can Do About It.

Tweaking the draft
During board discussion of the draft goals and objectives, board members brought up points that should be includ- ed in the goals, physical education, stan- dards, and a desire for more concrete and measurable outcomes, such as for the ob- jectives to “identify and decrease use of high stakes standardized testing that is being imposed by... (Continued on next page)
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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7. Local businesses support other local businesses.
6. The business community becomes reflective of this community’s unique culture.
5. The sales taxes I pay support this community and county: fixing my roads, maintaining my recreational facilities...
4. Competition and diversity result in fair prices and more choices.
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