The Big Easy Comes To Butterfield
Fundraising party to support Haldane Class of 2014 service trip

By Alison Rooney

On Saturday, Jan. 11, Butterfield Library will celebrate New Orleans through those things closely associated with that most idiosyncratic of American cities: food, drink and music. In an evening designed as a fundraiser for Haldane’s senior class trip, The Big Easy party proceeds will help take most of these students to the Big Easy in 2014 service trip.

Families will supply an assortment of Louisiana-themed foods, which will likely include gumbo, red beans and rice and jambalaya as well as dessert, accompanied by wine, beer and other beverages. Bottles of hot sauce at every table will spice things up. Cold Spring’s Leo Sacks, who hails from the Big Easy, will provide live music augmented by a compiled-for-the-occasion soundtrack of New Orleans music, past and present. There will be door prizes, including a framed print from the New Orleans Jazz Heritage Festival, a farm dinner for two from Glynwood Farm and the drawing of a raffle, top-drawer,” said Fr. Shane, himself a fine performer of Bach on piano.

Handel’s Messiah Rings Through St. Mary’s
Performances raise spirits

By Kevin E. Foley

On Sunday Dec. 22, more than 500 people in total sat rapt in the pews of St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Episcopal Church. The accomplished and recognized musicians themselves described the concerts as effectively original, of serious quality, and among the most moving they had played. And in the days since, audience members have been sending echoes of the concerts’ warmth and sense of coming together across the Philipstown community.

Both of the sold-out performances, held in the church whose lawn serves as the Cold Spring village green, were met with enthusiastic standing ovations, smiles and tears as well — not only by those who heard them but by those who performed them, in rare public displays by seasoned professionals.

During the reception between performances in the church’s Parish Hall and afterwards on social media or in personal encounters, people expressed an appreciation for both the highest-level musicianship of the players and the extraordinary effect of so many local people gathering on the same day to celebrate the season’s aspirations toward fellowship and unity.

The concert served as a fundraiser for financially strapped St. Mary’s as well as the food bank located at the First Presbyterian Church of Cold Spring. Asked about his reaction to the concert and its meaning for his church, Father Shane Scott-Hamblen, the rector, said: “It was a tremendous success. Gordon Stewart came through and helped out the parish a lot at a time of dire need during a harsh economy. He was a delight to work with and so were all the musicians — all were top-drawer,” said Fr. Shane, himself a fine performer of Bach on piano.

From the moment Stewart mounted the podium to conduct each performance without using a score, until over 75-minutes of this specially-arranged continuous version passed, and everyone stood to be part of the Hallelujah Chorus, interpreted in new ways, the concert seemed to float on a cloud of poignant enchantment. Its impact remained aloft into Christmas Day and will be sensed for a long time to come.

George Frideric Handel’s 18th-century masterwork was originally intended as an Easter celebration including profound musical portrayals of the Passion of Christ, but over time has become a ubiquitous evocation of the Christmas season. It was Stewart’s concept to mount a professional quality abridged production that would weave the work’s sublime evocation of the potential for all humanity’s redemption through the birth of every child and the joy of the light shining in the depth of the earth’s longest night together with the particular fabric of the community, to create a Philipstown Messiahs 2013 that could be appreciated by all citizens regardless of their personal beliefs and musical backgrounds.

Stewart, publisher of Philipstown info/The Paper, credited the “humblest by high” level of the performers and their willingness to accept and realize a conductor’s ideas if they respect both.

“If a musical performance is to be honestly moving, it must be built on commitment to the composer, respect for the players, and rock-solid execution of the score,” (Continued on page 2)

Stories You May Have Missed in 2013

We endeavor to inform our readers throughout the year, to make sense of events and what happens in our community. As the year draws to a close, The Paper looks back at 2013, as our staff members highlight important stories we’d like to revisit with our readers.

Girl Rising Screening Draws Many to First in Empower Film Series

Samantha Kapasas, Haldane senior and Saint Basil resident, driving force behind film series

By Alison Rooney

Girl Rising Screening Draws Many to First in Empower Film Series is all about how (Continued on page 3)
Handel's *Messiah* Rings Through St. Mary’s (from page 1)

Stewart said, “A conductor to me is a conduit from composer to players to audience. Expression not earned through competence is indulgence. And this defines the difference between truth and kitsch.”

In this regard Stewart paid special tribute to the concertmaster and first violinist Rachel Evans, a Garrison resident, for her efforts in recruiting musicians and organizing the music and players into an effective ensemble with so little rehearsal time. “I want to be clear that without Rachel Evans there could have been no Philipstown *Messiah*. Because of her skill and leadership, I could sit down during the most intimate arias, and give over the podium to the soloist and players to enjoy bringing the music to the audience together without a visible conductor. This made interpreting and executing the complex choral writing far more effective.”

“As far as having so little rehearsal time Gordon and I got together several times to go over in detail what he was thinking about for phrasing, dynamics and tempo for each movement,” said Evans. “The singers had their scores ahead of time with Gordon’s tempos marked and then as things were changed emails went out — so there was a communication going on before we met at the first rehearsal. At the rehearsals we were very careful to continue to move through the piece so that we could get all the way through it once — and then we had a complete run-through.”

Asked about the meaning of the *Messiah* tradition in her life, Evans said: “I have poured my life into being a classical musician and teacher. I’ve played and performed every kind of music from medieval to ultra contemporary improvisation. For me the most spiritually rewarding is baroque and classical music. One of my family’s Christmas traditions was to sit down Christmas morning and sing along with the entire piece. I’ve played the *Messiah* nearly every year since the 1980s. In the late 80s I started playing it with original instruments at St. Thomas in New York City. In 1995 I studied baroque violin in Germany and devoted about 30 years of my life to playing early music on period instruments almost exclusively. Every member of this orchestra and nearly every member of the chorus has spent time devoted to this style.”

Stewart stressed that Evans is also important to classical music existing in Philipstown. “Rachel is that rare highly skilled professional who works and plays as beautifully and joyfully with amateurs and children as with the best musicians in New York and abroad. For example, our only rehearsal ended at 5 p.m. on Saturday and we had two concerts to give the next day. But by 6 Rachel was leading a group of small children in a recital she designed around each one’s abilities.”

Evans readily agreed that presenting the concert in her own town had a special meaning both for her and the audience. “Sharing the highest level artistic experience with the community in which I live is deeply gratifying. One local artist and friend called to tell me how deeply moved she was, saying that she felt it was a community art happening and that people cried during these performances because the community needed and wanted to come together. To her mind this was the gift that Gordon gave the community. Another audience member wrote: ‘I personally wept most of the way through the performance, from the beauty of what I was hearing.’”

A few other local residents lent their considerable skills to the performance, including choral singer Terry Platz from the St. Philip’s Episcopal Church choir and the group Motherlode who praised Stewart for “his inspiration to establish Philipstown as a top-level *Messiah* destination, bring new awareness of St. Mary’s Church to the community and with music, help the town heal over a very emotional time.” The last reference was to the death of Jim Lovell in the recent Metro-North train wreck. The second concert performance was dedicated to Lovell’s memory. Gabriela Mikova Johnson (solo soprano) of Beacon, Lisa Sabin (alto) of Garrison, and Christine Bokhour (alto) of Garrison have all performed in several local musical productions in addition to their professional credits. And there was a homecoming of sorts for countertenor Nicholas Tamagna who offered stirring solo singing. His father Vinny Tamagna, a county official and former long-time Republican representative of Philipstown, beamed throughout the performances and gladly accepted congratulations during the reception from people of all political stripes.
Stories You May Have Missed in 2013

Bonds forged on a small scale — in this case between Haldane, Saint Basil Academy, a teacher, a social worker, and then many in the community — are indicative of the greater strengths that community holds, something seen more clearly as 2013 continued. That these bonds were derived from literature, film and finally person to person action, commitment, and support makes this story and its subjects all the more resonant.

[For complete coverage, see: Girl Rising Screening Draws Many to First in Empower Film Series, at Philipstown. info, May 19, 2013.]

Moratorium on Wind-Turbine Projects

Town Board passes 2014 budget

By Liz Schvetz

B y a unanimous vote, the Philipstown Town Board on Nov. 20 imposed a 6-month ban on new wind-turbine energy projects. The move gives the board and public another year in 2014 to determine how to proceed.

Impetus for the moratorium came from a year-long controversy over a Garrison resident’s bid to generate house-energy projects. The move gives the board and public another year in 2014 to determine how to proceed.

[For complete coverage, see: Moratorium on Wind-Turbine Projects; Fjord Trail planning approved, at Philipstown.info, Nov. 22, 2013; and Town Board Passes 2014 Budget, at Philipstown.info, Nov. 22, 2013.]

The Big Easy Comes To Butterfield

(from page 1)

different to what most have been exposed to growing up in the Hudson Valley. That was the driving force behind the idea itself, bringing it to fruition, according to Maya Curto, one of the seniors and last year’s class officers along with Mary Callaghan, John Hughes, and Shauna Ricketts.

"From freshman year onwards," Curto recalls, "we brought up different ideas for a trip. We knew there was still a lot to do in New Orleans, and that Habitat for Humanity was a trustworthy organization. That spurred us on. Though at first we didn’t think it would end up happening, we started researching and came up with a lot of information. This past summer, we met with [Haldane teacher, who supervises many of the senior youth activities] Mrs. Pidala, who wasn’t sure, but when we actually put the community service details in place she agreed to it — if we worked for it. The major turnoff was the cost, but we knew if we could put as much work into getting it approved, we could put just as much work into funding-raising because we wanted to have everything one has the option to go.

Aware that there has been some questioning from the community as to why the students need to travel so far when Habitat for Humanity works nearby, including Newburgh, Curto said, "It’s not just about doing the community service work. The exposure to another culture, even in the U.S., is just as important. Cold Spring is a secure community and a lot of kids here have never really been out of it; for a lot of people this will be their first time going on an airplane. We wanted to experience something totally new and different. It will give us a whole new understanding and perspective by doing it in New Orleans.

Curto hopes that, if this trip goes well, it’s something similar, will become a new tradition for Haldane’s graduating class. “We hope it continues; a different class might take up something new, or might repeat what we do — it’s up to (students) are highly motivated,” Bales- trieri said. “We’re getting away from the stigma (that) a trade means you don’t go to college. We’re also seeing change in (parents’) thinking. They want their kids to go off to college knowing where they are headed.”

Academic students now looking at BOCES

While some students prefer hands-on job training, strong academic students are now also considering BOCES. “New Vision” is a rigorous, one-year program for college-bound seniors. Students earn honors, AP and college credit while working with industry professionals, often in on-the-job settings. Areas of study include Health, Environmental Science, Education and Engineering. Students also receive academic instruction in English, Government and Economics.

[For complete coverage, see: BOCES Tech Center Offers Alternative Career Path, at Philipstown.info, May 26, 2013.]

BOCES Offers Students Alternative Career Path

By Michael Turton

While the Common Core Curriculum and reduced state funding domi-
nated the news in 2013, philipstown.info covered another significant education story which first appeared in our print edition.

Choosing a career is daunting — but the BOCES Tech Center in Yorktown Heights teaches skills that can lead directly to a job — or be the steppingstone to higher education. Juniors and seniors attend BOCES as an extension of their regular high school curriculum. Forty programs cover several professions including Busi-

Programs viewed in a new light

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[By Michael Turton]
**Open House: Knox Headquarters**  
Fri., Dec. 27, 10 - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Sat., Dec. 28, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Sun., Dec. 29, 12 noon - 5 p.m.  
290 Forge Hill Road, Vails Gate  
845-551-5458 | nysparks.com

**Film: Going My Way (1944)**  
Fri., Dec. 27, 2 p.m.  
Sat., Dec. 28, Noon  
Mon. Dec. 30 2 p.m.  
Dowling Film Center | 19 Front St., Newburgh  
845-693-3866 | dowlingmovie.com

**Winter Break Vacation Camp (ages 5-12)**  
Fri., Dec. 27, 8 - 5 p.m.  
Mon., Dec. 30 - Sat., Jan. 4, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
All Sport | 170 Main St., Fishkill  
845-896-6678 | allsportfishkill.com

**Film: The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)**  
Sat., Dec. 28, Noon | Jan. 3, Noon  
Jacob Burns Film Center  
364 Mainville Rd, Pleasantville  
914-541-6660 | jacobburnsfilms.org

**Film: The Nutcracker in 3D**  
Sunday, Dec. 29, Noon  
Jacob Burns Film Center Marinsky Theatre  
See details above

**Winter Welcome Days at Washington’s Headquarters**  
Fri., Dec. 27, 10 - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Sat., Dec. 28, 12 noon - 3 p.m.  
84 Liberty St., Newburgh  
845-562-1195 | nysparks.com

**Children’s Holiday Tea at Mount Gulian**  
Sat., Dec. 27, Noon - 2 p.m.  
145Sterling St., Beacon  
845-833-8172 | mountgulian.org

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**Meet the Animals at the Wildlife Education Center**  
Fri., Dec. 27, 1 & 2:30 p.m.  
Sat., Dec. 28, 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Sun., Dec. 29, 12 noon - 3 p.m.  
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson  
845-634-7771 | hnhnaturemuseum.org

**Cold Spring Farmers’ Market**  
Sat., Dec. 28, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
St. Mary’s, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring  
coldspringfarmersmarket.com

**Free Admission to Boscobel Gardens**  
Sat., Dec. 28, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
DiaBeacon 3 Beekman St., Beacon  
845-640-0010 | dia beacon.org

**Free Admission To Dia For Beacon Residents**  
Sat., Dec. 28, 15 a.m. - 4 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Town Crier, 379 Main St., Beacon  
845-265-5000 | coldspringdepot.com

**Live Music**  
Bean Runner Café | Details under Friday

**Wine Tasting**  
5 - 8 p.m. Antipodean Books  
4 - 7 p.m. Artisan Wine Shop  
180 Main St., Beacon  
845-731-0100 | antipodean.com

**Meetings & Lectures**

**Children’s Chocolate Shoppe at the Ironworks, Copake Falls**  
Thurs., Jan. 2, 9 - 11:30 a.m.  
Meet at the Ironworks, Copake Falls  
sawmillriveraudubon.org

**Music and Food Pantry**  
9 a.m. Beckon Presbyterian Church  
50 Liberty St., Beacon  
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

**Meetings & Lectures**

**Wine & Cheese**  
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café  
Details under Friday

**Wine Tasting**  
5 p.m. New York Uproar Blues  
845-808-1880 | putnamcountygc.com

**Meetings & Lectures**

**Health & Fitness**

**Wine Tasting**  
7 p.m. Putnam County Golf Course | 187 Hill St.,  
845-424-3867 | putnamcountygolf.com

**Meetings & Lectures**

**Group Show: Together for the Holidays**  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Art Works! Gallery  
320 Main St., Beacon  
845-265-9410 | artworks.gallery

**Winter Break Activities for Kids**

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**FRIYDAY, DECEMBER 27**

**Garrison Art Center closed**

**Food Pantry**  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
10 Academy St., Cold Spring  
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

**Cooking Center Open**  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 59 Lane Gate Road, Cold Spring  
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

**Wine Tasting**  
9 - 10 a.m. First Presbyterian Church  
50 Liberty St., Beacon  
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

**Soup Kitchen**  
11 a.m. Presbyterian Church  
50 Liberty St., Beacon  
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

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**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28**

**Christmas Bird Count**  
5 - 8 p.m. 360 Peckskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley  
birdlife.org/christmasbirdcount

**Recycling Center Open**  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 59 Lane Gate Road, Cold Spring  
coldspringdepot.com

**Wine Tasting**  
3 - 5 p.m. New York Uproar Blues  
845-808-1880 | putnamcountygc.com

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**

**Beacon Farmers’ Market**  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Beacon Farmers’ Market on the Green  
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison  
845-917-2484 | nysparks.com

**Free Computer Help**  
2 p.m. Desmond Fish Library  
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

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**Music**

**Art & Design**

**Art & Design**

**Group Show: Together for the Holidays**  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Art Works! Gallery  
320 Main St., Beacon  
845-265-9410 | artworks.gallery

**Wine & Cheese**  
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café  
Details see under Friday.

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**The Country Goose**

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**The Calendar**

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**The Paper**

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**For more details and ongoing events, visit philipstown.info. See recent listings to calendar@philipstown.info.**
Religious Services
See philipstown.info/churches for Sunday listings

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31
Buddhist Library closed
Howland Library closed
Desmond-Fish Library open 2 - 5 p.m.
Garrison Art Center closed
Deadline to Register for Basic STAR
Exemption | 518-457-2339 | tax.ny.gov

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

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

Open Mic Night
7 p.m. Towne Crier Café | Details under Friday

New Riders of the Purple Sage
8 p.m., Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Meetings & Lectures
Philipstown Board Year-End Meeting
7:30 p.m. Town Hall
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

(Continued on page 7)
Dads Teach Dads at Free Parenting Workshop

A
dads teaching dads free parent-
ing workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday Jan. 25, in Carmel. The parenting workshop is designed for new and expecting fa-
thers in Putnam and surrounding coun-
ties. Taught by Dads for Dads, the 1 1/2 hour session provides information and hands-on practice with basic baby care. For more information or to register, call 845-808-4400, ext. 4422.
The workshop will be held at Putnam Hospital Center, Large Oncology Room, 670 Stoneleigh Ave., in Carmel. The event will be hosted by the Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County and the Put-
am County Department of Health.

Going My Way Screens at Downing Film Center

T
he Downing Film Center presents the Academy Award-winning film Going My Way as a way to treat the com-
munity. The film is not rated but can be treated as G — appropriate for the
community. The film is not rated but can
include a new series of music seminars, cater to children, teens and adults, and
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Six Degrees of Separation Explores Fraudulence

World's End Theater presents tragicomedy on First Friday

Continuing its monthly First Friday Play Reading series, World’s End Theater (WET) will present John Guare’s popular work, Six Degrees of Separation, at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 3, at the Philipstown.info/The Paper meeting space at 69 Main St., Cold Spring. Andre Herzogvitch directs the reading. As with all in this series, the readings are free, with a suggested donation, and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Performances often fill quickly.

“It read somewhere that everybody on this planet is separated by only six other people. Six degrees of separation. Between us and everybody else on this planet.”

Inspired in part by real-life con man David Hampton, John Guare’s Six Degrees of Separation was written in 1989 and concerns Manhattan socialite-art dealer couple Ouisa and Flan Kittredge. They are visited by Paul, a young black man who claims to be the son of Sidney Poitier, and enters the couple with dreams of stardom in the movies. Paul’s abrupt departure and a discreet manhunt lead to the realization that they are not the only ones affected by him. Family and friends have also encountered this stranger with similar results. By trying to connect the dots, Ouisa soon begins to question her own connections and identity.

This lyrical tragicomedy of race, class and manners explores fraudulence on many levels: opportunism, white liberal guilt, greed, the art world, and the elevated aesthetics of New York City with knowingness and compassion and a wonderful flow of language.

The World’s End Theater reading will feature Jenn Lee and Gregory Porter Miller as Ouisa and Flan Kittredge, Jeff Foote as Paul, along with actors George Kimmel, Maia Guest, Malachy Cleary, Donald Kimmel, Joe Dunn, Kelsey Olson, Emma Ruck as Tess, joined by former and current Haldane students Malachy Francis Cleary, Peter Close, Aidan Gallagher, Ramsey Hettemann, and Matt Marino.

The original cast included Stockard Channing as Ouisa, John Cunningham as Flan, and James McDaniel as Paul.

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Come in Out of the Cold!  
Warm up with our  
CABIN FEVER WORKSHOPS

4 Saturdays in February
NEW! Music Seminars
Feb. 1 - A taste of Jazz Improvisation
Feb. 15 - A Tour of Southern Fiddle Music
NEW! Writing Workshops
Feb. 8 - Write a Love Poem
Feb. 15 - Write a Memoir Piece
Feb. 22 - Discover Your Writing voice
Studio Workshops
Feb. 1 - Experimental Drawing
Feb. 8 - Monotype Printing
Feb. 15 - Introduction to Watercolors
Feb. 22 - Four Books in a Box, paper arts
Digital Arts
Feb. 1 - Ask the Photographer
Feb. 8 - Light Writing for all Ages
Feb. 15 - Get to Know Your Digital Camera
Feb. 22 - Introduction to Adobe Lightroom

SIGN UP NOW
845.424.3960

Sign up for ONE at $35,
TWO at $30 each, or
THREE or more for $25 each
Plus $5 materials fee for select workshops

Garrison Art Center
PO Box 423, Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
845-424-3960  garrisonartcenter.org

379 Main Street
Beacon, NY 12508

Friday 12/27 8:30pm
SOLD OUT
THE FELICE BROTHERS
hosted by JIM MANN
Saturday 1/28 8:30pm
BLACK 47
Sunday 1/20 7:30pm
MURALI CORTYLL BAND
also THE COSTELLOS
Tuesday 12/31 9:30pm
NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATION
DEBBIE DAVIS BLUES BAND
and MYLES MANCUSO BAND
Friday 1/1 8:30pm
EVERLY BROS.
Sunday 1/14 8:30pm
TRIBECASTAN
Sunday 1/19 7:30pm
SPUYTEN DUYvil
also THE STACKS
Thursday 1/27 7:30pm
CHIP TAYLOR
Friday 1/31 8:30pm
SONNY LANDRETH
hosted by JIM MANN
Saturday 1/31 7:30pm
TROUT FISHING IN AMERICA
Sunday 1/12 7:30pm
SETH GLIER
also LIZ LONGLEY
Saturday 1/18 8:30pm
JOE LOUIS WALKER BAND

"Down-home access to world-class performers.
—NY Times"