

Backyard water bodies can be home to fish and plants

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or saw one somewhere and then all of a sudden they have one and it's unbelievable," he said. "Visually it is so beautiful (and) the sound is just amazing. We installed one in Garrison, Westchester County, and the teenage daughter came over while we were working and really couldn't care less about the pond. The week after we finished it, her mother called to tell me that the teen (had) moved her bedroom ... just so that she could hear the water running."

Ponds use liners or clay

The vast majority of ponds Schoen installs include liners, but occasionally, he will use clay. The size of a water feature can also vary — from a small backyard display to one that takes up more than an acre.

Schoen, who has given presentations at Ulster and Dutchess

If you go

What: "Water Wonders: Aquatic features in your landscape" workshop with Ken Schoen.
Where: Phantom Gardener, 6837 Route 9, Rhinebeck.
When: 10 a.m. June 12.
Admission: \$15.
Info: 845-876-8606.

County Community colleges as well as at a number of garden clubs, plans to make this workshop as accessible as possible to both experienced and beginner pond owners.

"Taking about ponds is a pretty large subject, so I try to focus in on the people that are attending," he said. "I go over general information, but then I ask each of them if they have a pond or not. I try to cover the concerns of



Courtesy photo

The grounds of Phantom Gardener in Rhinebeck offer a wide variety of plants to enhance a property of any size as well as educational workshops on different gardening topics.

both groups during the course of the workshop."

Addressing issues such as selecting a proper site for a pond and its water source will also be covered.

The possibilities of enhancing a space with a pond are endless.

their backyard, and in reality you can have some beautiful plants and a goldfish or two. But it's kind of like aquariums in the sense that it's harder to take care of a five-gallon aquarium than it is a 100-gallon aquarium."

Given a larger base to work with, temperature levels won't vary as much and fish can swim more freely in a larger environment.

The water feature workshop costs \$15 to attend. Examples of Schoen's work can be seen online at www.koiponds.com/waterscapes_.htm

Other workshops offered

Workshops that typically generate large audiences include those led by the Phantom Gardener's owner, Norbert Lazar. His expertise is organic vegetable gardening, and there is a high level of interest in the region.

Having studied organic agriculture at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash., Lazar

said the name of his Rhinebeck business came from a project he started in 1986.

"My original business was putting in organic vegetables for second-home owners in the area," he said. "I'd put in a garden, harvest it (and) take care of it ... for people, and they'd see all the vegetables but never see me."

One goal Lazar had when he opened the store on Route 9 was to provide education and promote organics.

"I feel very strongly about not selling chemical pest control or fertilizers at the store," he said. "As for the workshops, it's really nice that people want to learn something rather than to just grow a garden without any knowledge and relying on what you to tell them in 10 minutes."

Anthony Musso is a freelance writer. Reach him at focus@poughkeepsiejournal.com.

Red Hook to mark 200th year

Town planning 2012 bicentennial festivities

Focus staff

In 1812, Red Hook split from Rhinebeck to become an independent township. In honor of that historic event, the Red Hook Town Board has unanimously proclaimed 2012 as the "Official Bicentennial Year."

To mark the separation, the Bicentennial Celebration Committee of the Egbert Benson Historical Society has begun organizing a series of townwide events and community projects.

"We aim to make 2012 as much a banner year for Red Hook as 1812," said Loretta Campagna, Bicentennial Celebration Committee chairperson.

A letter from the Celebration

Committee went to Red Hook's more than 6,000 households, announcing the bicentennial and asking people to volunteer and pitch in with their financial support.

"Community initiatives like this take countless volunteer hours, not to mention lots of funding," said Campagna. "That is why we are confident that everyone who cares about Red Hook will answer our call to get personally involved in this exciting, historic community celebration."

Formal bicentennial festivities are slated for announcement at this year's Hardscrabble Day, Sept. 24. The majority of the events, including a community day, old-fashioned barn dance, commemorative bicentennial parade, and musical production, are planned for the spring and summer of 2012.

IN BRIEF

Baseball historian to give talk, signing

John Thorn, official historian of Major League Baseball, will challenge the myths of the sport's origins during a talk and book signing titled "Baseball in the Garden of Eden" at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Red Hook Firehouse. All are welcome to attend this fundraiser. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for those 15 and younger.

Tickets can be bought either at the library, at the event or by calling Sandy at 845-757-3031. Books will be available for purchase at the event.

For details, call the Red Hook Public Library at 845-758-3241. To get involved with the Friends of Red Hook Public Library, contact Sandy at 845-757-3031. The library is at 7444 S. Broadway in Red Hook. Visit the website at www.redhooklibrary.org.

Tivoli library wins Victory award

Village Mayor Bryan Cranna presented the Tivoli Free Library with the Village of Tivoli's Victory Achievement Award. The award was presented to the library for

the time and service it has provided to the children of Tivoli and their families over many years. The Victory Initiative endeavors to create an atmosphere of mutual respect, youth empowerment and trust. For many years, Tivoli's residents — both children and adults — as well as individuals from neighboring communities have taken part in the various programs, activities, events and celebrations that have been hosted by the Tivoli Free Library.

Church plans upbeat, family-friendly service

The Pawling United Methodist Church, 2 Dutcher Ave., will have an informal, family-friendly service for all ages that will feature a relevant message and contemporary music led by the worship band "Saved by Grace" on June 12. A gathering to share coffee, dessert and fellowship will be offered at 5:30 p.m. and the worship service will begin at 6 p.m.

This is scheduled to be an upbeat service for seekers, for those who have never attended church before and for those who work Sunday mornings and can't come to church, as well as for people



Submitted by Elisa Shaw

A horse and foal bond in a Clinton Corners pasture last summer. For "Our Towns" photo submissions, please email pictures to pjtownphotos@poughkeepsiejournal.com.

from a wide variety of faith backgrounds. T-shirts and jeans are considered standard attire for this event. For further information, call 845-855-5350.

Journal seeks photos of life in the valley

As part of the new "Our Towns" editions, the Journal is looking to reflect life in the mid-

Hudson Valley through the lenses of readers each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Include the photographer's information with a caption identifying the content, where and when it was taken.

For information, call Multimedia Director Spencer Ainsley at 845-437-4871.

BLOOD DRIVES

RED CROSS

www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

ULSTER COUNTY

June 13: VFW Kingston, 708 East Chester St, Kingston. 1-6 p.m.

June 16: Ulster County Sheriff, 380 Boulevard, Kingston. 12:30-5:30 p.m.

HUDSON VALLEY BLOOD SERVICES

Visit www.nybloodcenter.org or call 1-800-933-BLOOD.

ULSTER COUNTY

June 13: Kingston Donor Center, 51 Albany Ave., Kingston. 1-8 p.m.

June 14: Kingston Donor Center, 51 Albany Ave., Kingston. Noon to 7 p.m.

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