

SAFE HARBORS  
OF THE HUDSON



gallery • residence • theater

# Newsletter

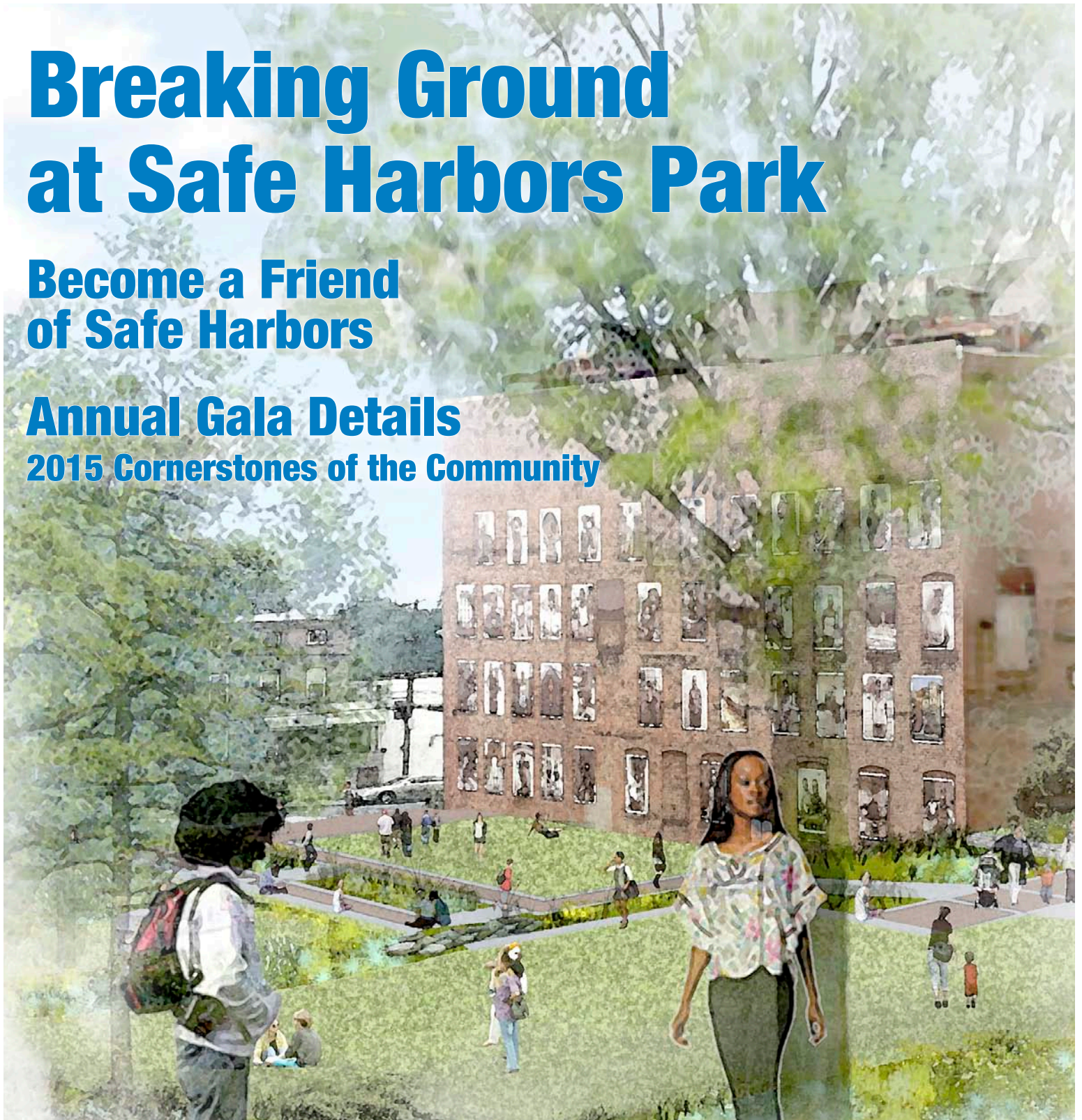
*Transforming lives and building communities through housing and the arts*

2015

## Breaking Ground at Safe Harbors Park

**Become a Friend  
of Safe Harbors**

**Annual Gala Details**  
**2015 Cornerstones of the Community**





**Safe Harbors of the Hudson**  
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(845) 562-6940  
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[www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)  
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**SAFE HARBORS**  
OF THE HUDSON



gallery

• residence

• theater

## A Message from Executive Director, Lisa Silverstone



An organization with a mission of transforming lives and building communities through housing and the arts has tremendous leeway in its ability to grow, collaborate and impact its community.

Safe Harbors is anchored by the Cornerstone Residence. But our mission allows for a unique project which fully integrates visual and performing arts with housing to create an engine for social well-being, cultural opportunity, downtown revitalization and economic development.

This year, with the purchase of the vacant lot at the corner of Broadway and Liberty St., Safe Harbors made the bold and strategic decision to more fully realize our mission as we expand our footprint, our impact and our ability to transform lives and build communities.

In other news, Safe Harbors is busy preparing for our 2015 gala event. This year, we are proud to recognize Newburgh Free Library Director, Chuck Thomas and Unitex Textile Rental Services and the Potack Family, as our 2015 Cornerstones of the Community. Mr. Thomas is a quiet champion of the City of Newburgh, working behind the scenes and sharing of his time and tremendous talent to improve life for so many in our community. Unitex Textile Rental Services is a committed community business, a responsible employer and a generous corporate partner in Newburgh and the Hudson Valley. Both recipients typify the spirit of the Cornerstone of the Community award.

Please take a moment to read through our newsletter and bring yourself up to date on the many ways Safe Harbors continues to grow our mission, our partnership and our impact on the community we serve. Thank you for your support.

## A Note From Safe Harbors' Board Chair, Theresa Brown

What a wonderful, exciting journey we are continuing! With the merging of the Ritz and Safe Harbors Boards of Directors, we have been able to reflect upon our mission within our community and strategically move forward.

The targeted work that the expanded board is doing in collaboration with the Safe Harbors staff has allowed us to realize our impact in the Newburgh community. We are looking forward to the continued transformation of the corner lot; the development of a new vision for the Ritz Theater and new and exciting ways to increase patronage at the award-winning Ann Street Gallery.

Of course, all of these efforts are dependent upon the support of our entire community. Whether you contribute monetarily, attend one of the many performances at the Lobby at the Ritz, enjoy the unique works displayed at the Ann Street Gallery or participate in a special event such as Bells on Broadway, Cupcake-a-Palooza or the annual Newburgh Running Festival, you are helping us realize our mission to transform lives and building communities through housing and the arts.

Our annual Gala is a time to recognize individuals and corporations who continue to demonstrate their support of Safe Harbors' mission and commitment to our community. On September 17th we will be honoring Chuck Thomas, Director of Newburgh Free Library and community-minded business, Unitex Textile Rental Services as Cornerstones of the Community. Their unique contributions to our community will be recognized and celebrated. I encourage all to attend this festive evening!

I look forward to our continued growth as a positive force within the City of Newburgh and hope you can join us for the ride!



visit our website at [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)

Park rendering on cover created by



## September 17: Annual Gala - Celebrating Community

### Honoring Chuck Thomas and Unitex Textile Rental Services

Mark your calendar! Join us for a festive evening at our annual Gala on Thursday, September 17.

Always working to keep things interesting and fresh, Safe Harbors is creating a unique gala experience this year! Guests will be arriving on Ann Street, where they will be welcomed into our new artist studio space, invited to visit the Ann Street Gallery, where exhibiting artist Ryan Roa will be on hand to speak about his work, then proceeding to the Historic Green Room to enjoy an extended cocktail reception, with delicious passed hors d'oeuvres, sumptuous food stations, live music and a dazzling array of auction items!

This year, Safe Harbors is thrilled to be honoring Newburgh Free Library Director,

Chuck Thomas and community-minded business Unitex Textile Rental Services and the Potack Family as our Cornerstones of the Community.

Please help us celebrate these champions of Newburgh and support the work we are doing here at Safe Harbors while enjoying a lovely late summer night out.

Gala details can be found on our website, [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org) or give us a call at 845-784-1107.



## 2015 Cornerstones of the Community



**Chuck Thomas** is a quiet champion of the City of Newburgh. He never searches for the limelight or clamors for the credit, he just gets the work done!

Chuck began his career at the Newburgh Free Library in 1996 in community outreach, working to engage our diverse and multi-lingual community to promote accessibility and engagement at the Library. In 2013, Chuck was promoted to Director of the Free Library and has continued his focus on serving the community, making the library a barrier free cultural and educational resource for our neighbors.

Mr. Thomas's commitment to the City of Newburgh extends well beyond the walls of the Library. For two years, he was the chair of the Newburgh Illuminated committee and continued to serve on that committee in the event's third year; he serves on the board of the Newburgh

Preservation Association, Newburgh Rowing Club, Newburgh Waterfront Advisory Commission and the Newburgh Conservation Advisory Council.

With his wife, Nancy Thomas, Chuck owns and operates the 1820's Goldsmith Denniston House Bed & Breakfast on Montgomery Street, in the City's historic east end - a local treasure for visitors and residents!

Safe Harbors is breaking new ground in awarding the Cornerstone of the Community to a business this year. We recognize that strong, community-minded businesses contribute greatly to the economic vitality of our community, employ our residents and give generously of their time, talent and resources to local non-profits. Safe Harbors would be hard pressed to continue the good work we are doing in our community without the generous support of our local businesses.

**Unitex Textile Rental Services** is a fourth generation, family owned and operated business and a leader in the healthcare uniform and linen rental industry for over 90 years.



Unitex has a 65,000 square foot facility here in the City of Newburgh, where they employ over 230 City and local residents. Their commitment to paying a fair wage, loyalty to their employees and strong engagement in the community make them an ideal candidate for the Cornerstone award.

Members of the Potack family will receive the award on behalf of their family business. Father and sons all have a commitment to their community, serve on non-profit boards and have cultivated a family tradition of giving back.

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## New Board Member



Sonia Koppel is a native of The Bronx, NY and currently resides in the Cornerstone Residence. After graduating from CCNY with a degree

in Special Education, she dedicated her career to working with children of all ages. She was the Executive Director of a daycare center and Director of Youth and Teen Programs at the YMCA in Poughkeepsie. Sonia also held keyholder positions at Petco and Staples.

Since moving to Newburgh she has been involved in volunteer work at Independent Living's LEAP after school program, Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties and Literacy Orange. Sonia is currently a gallery assistant at SHOH's Ann Street Gallery.

Sonia is hoping that through her directorship she can be an agent for positive change in the City of Newburgh.

## Annual Community Cleanup

We had great community support for our annual Newburgh Community Cleanup on April 25, with over 250 volunteers coming out to clean the city. Thank you to all participants, volunteers and sponsors, especially Jim Taylor and Taylor Recycling!



## New Artist Studios

The newly renovated Artist Studio space is open. Artists are set up in their spaces and active in their creative work.



## Safe Harbors Annual Newburgh Running Festival a Great Success!

On May 9, Safe Harbors hosted the Newburgh Running Festival - making it the 9th annual Off Broadway 5K and 2nd Annual NYC Runs Newburgh Half Marathon. We had incredible support from local businesses and a record number of funds were raised! Over 500 runners turned out in perfect running weather to support our mission of transforming lives and building communities through housing and the arts!

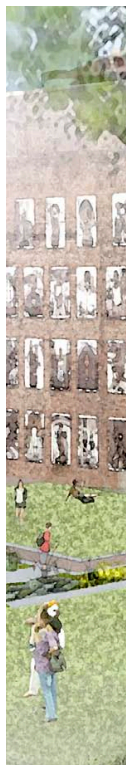
Thank you to our wonderful volunteers, City and Town Police Officers and Auxiliary, our sponsors and all who came out for the event!



visit our website at [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)



## Safe Harbors ... at the Nexus of Neighborhood Revitalization



Always growing, stretching and finding ways to increase our impact, engage our community and strengthen our mission, Safe Harbors made a bold decision earlier this year to purchase the vacant lot adjacent to our project.

With a generous lead gift, Safe Harbors was able to secure a commercial loan and this pivotal property in the center of Newburgh's downtown. Our plan is to develop the lot into a fully accessible, innovative urban park, a cultural and social hub that will allow us to enhance our programming, create green space, facilitate social activity, improve public safety and spur economic growth.

The park design optimizes the site's natural resources while incorporating the most innovative of green and sustainable technology; native plantings, rainwater gardens, solar lighting and full ADA accessibility, in an inviting and well-designed space.

A park in our downtown will create a place to strengthen connections; a place that encourages walk-ability and accessibility; an animated gathering place where people can meet, recreate and exchange ideas; a place for markets, gardens, performances, festivals, public art and quiet spots for contemplation.

We will be kicking off a capital campaign to support the park project this fall and hope you will partner with us in this next exciting chapter for Safe Harbors and the further revitalization of our City!

## Fall Favorites: Cupcake-a-Palooza and Bells on Broadway



Safe Harbors will host the popular *Cupcake-a-Palooza Special Holiday Edition* October 24 from 1 - 4 p.m. in the Lobby at the Ritz Theater. This great event is fun for all ages. Admission is \$5 per person and includes tastings and beverages. Come by and enjoy the most delicious confections in the Hudson Valley.

Safe Harbors looks forward to welcoming our neighbors to *Bells on Broadway* Holiday Market and Children's Festival, a beloved annual community tradition, Saturday, November 21 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the Lobby at the Ritz and the historic Green Room. Enjoy live music, crafts for the kids and photos with Santa and Frosty while getting a jump on holiday shopping. The Market will feature local artisans and vendors offering a beautiful selection of jewelry, scarves, handbags, pottery, candles, soaps and more. Admission is free with a nominal fee for holiday snacks and photos with Santa and Frosty.

For more information contact  
June Henley at (845) 784-1110 or  
[jhenley@safe-harbors.org](mailto:jhenley@safe-harbors.org).



## Time is Valuable ... Volunteering is Invaluable!



Like many non-profit organizations, Safe Harbors depends on a loyal cadre of volunteers and in-kind donors to make our mission a reality. Each year, we show our gratitude to all the individuals, businesses and organizations that make our work possible with special awards reserved for the Volunteer of the Year and In-Kind Donor of the Year. This year we were very pleased to recognize **Marvin Schwartzwalder**, our intrepid GED instructor, as Safe Harbors volunteer of the year. Marvin is the Cornerstone's very own unsung hero, never daunted by weather; a stranger to summer vacation, Marvin goes above and beyond the call of duty no matter what! The In-Kind Donor of the Year went to **Taylor Recycling**. Each year Taylor generously donates seven 30-yard dumpsters and labor to the Newburgh Community Cleanup. There would be no Community Cleanup if it weren't for Taylor Recycling!

visit our website at [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)





**January 2015**

## *An Aberrant View*

### A Group Exhibition

This exhibit explored how contemporary artists reframe the dominant discourses in contemporary art. The show was comprised of iconoclastic multimedia works that conveyed an aesthetic of the unusual or aberrant, while defying traditional and conventional expectations. *An Aberrant View* featured artists who take their inspiration from the radical changes in the conceptualization and

production of art that developed in the aftermath of the great social and political upheaval of World War I.

These artists push back on the popular, mainstream acceptance of formalist and international styles of art.



**March 2015**

## *It's Ok to be a Realist*

### A Group Exhibition of Representational Art

*It's OK to be a Realist* provided a survey of representational works showcasing young emerging talent and established practitioners who offer an expansive vision of a new contemporary Realism movement with an array of stylistic approaches that demonstrate the enduring interest and diversity of representational art. The works in this exhibit featured a plethora of themes with exemplary paintings, drawings, and sculptures on the cutting edge of a new Realist movement.

**June 2015**

## *You are Here*

### A Group Exhibition of Cartography/Mapping Artists

*You are Here* - an innovative exhibition of works by established and emerging artists highlighted 22 artists who explored the theme of cartography through self-created spaces as a vehicle for their artistic expression.



**August 2015**

## *Mélange*

### A Solo Exhibition

### Sculptures and Drawings by Ryan Roa

*Mélange*, a solo exhibition of artist Ryan Roa, features sculptures and drawings comprised of everyday utilitarian materials: expanded steel, nuts, bolts, washers, and threaded rods, which are in complete contrast with the fluidity of the sculptures shapes and forms. By employing a harsh metal to fabricate delicate shapes, the artist not only challenges the material's limitations but emphasizes the duality of the sculpture's aesthetic quality. *Mélange* will be on view through September 26.





## Community Paint-In Event

A Hands-On, Collaborative,  
Community Event

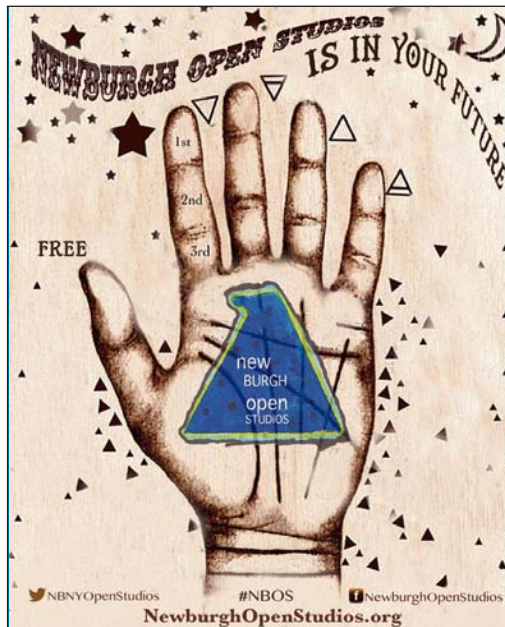
Safe Harbors Ann Street Gallery held its 2nd Annual Community Paint-In Event in August. This free event drew a diverse crowd of over 100 people of all ages who worked together to create beautiful community works of art. Thank you to our event sponsors Walmart, Macy's, Rhinebeck Bank and Stewart's Shops and to all the volunteers who helped sketching out canvases, mixing paint and making for a smooth and creative day.



## Newburgh OPEN Studios

Safe Harbors Ann Street Gallery and adjacent Studio Space will be participating in the 5th Annual Newburgh OPEN Studios, the weekend of September 26 and 27 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Maps will be available at Newburgh Art Supply (5 Grand Street, Newburgh) at 10 a.m. each day.

This FREE self-guided Newburgh OPEN Studios takes place each year over the last weekend in September and features work from artists throughout the City of Newburgh. Visitors can see and purchase a wide range of original work by local artists who appreciate the opportunity to share how, why and where their art is created.



5th Annual

## Newburgh OPEN Studios

SAT & SUN  
SEPT 26 & 27  
11 am - 5pm

maps available at  
Newburgh Art Supply, 5 Grand Street  
Sat & Sun Sept 26 & 27 starting at 10am

### Launch Event

Friday, September 25, 6pm - 9pm

RUEDI HOFMANN

PIVOTAL, Faces of Change: Newburgh  
photography exhibit of still and motion portraits

Thornwillow Institute

7 South Lander Street, Newburgh



Save the Date



Gallery Talk  
with artist Ryan Roa

Saturday, September 26  
6:30 p.m.

104 Ann Street • Newburgh

visit our website at [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)





## Local Talent Rocks the Stage at The Lobby

The 2015 Lobby at the Ritz Music Series has been a resounding success! There is a tremendous amount of talent in the City of Newburgh and we were excited to showcase many local artists on the stage this year!

Ralph Williams brought together over 40 local performers for a foot-stomping, hand-clapping night of inspiring Gospel music.

City of Newburgh's Mina Thomas brought the house down with her big voice, bright smile and passion for jazz!



Doo Wop group, The Fellas had people dancing in the aisles and, not to be outdone, Cuboricua brought out salsa dancers so fantastic it was like watching two shows for the price of one!

We are very much looking forward to the rest of the line-up, which includes Grammy award winning percussionist Jeff Haynes, the incomparable KJ Denhert and singer/saxophonist Jonny Hirsch.



visit our website at [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)





## Ritz Kidz Talent Show

The Ritz will host its annual *RitzKidz Newburgh's Got Talent* Talent Show on November 15. Open auditions will take place on November 7. Watch for more details! We look forward to many talented performers returning to the stage joined by many others making their debut performance. Good luck to all participants!



## Safe Harbors is thrilled to announce our first Lobby at the Ritz Artist in Residence!

Local jazz phenom, Mina Thomas, will be the first artist to make the Lobby her performance home. Ms. Thomas will use the space for rehearsal and will be a featured performer in our annual concert series.

Gala goers will be dazzled by Mina who will be our special guest performer at this year's event where we will celebrate our brilliant community.



## Upcoming ...

Next season we'll be bringing back some Lobby favorites (Nat Adderley, Jr. and Frank Vignola with Vinny Raniolo) while introducing some amazing local and regional talent to the stage. Watch for the full line-up in the coming months.

Thank you to the New York State Council on the Arts, Price Chopper's Golub Foundation and the Newburgh Veterinary Hospital for their continued support of the 2015 Lobby at the Ritz Concert Series.



visit our website at [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org)





## News and Noteworthy at The Cornerstone



### Tenant Achievements

The Cornerstone GED program has enjoyed much success since its inception. As the TASC exam gets increasingly more difficult, we are proud to announce, that in the first half of 2015, we had two GED graduates. It's much harder to go back to school as a full-fledged adult and that makes these successes so much sweeter. Congratulations to Christopher Flood and Steven Flores! We will celebrate their success in September with a graduation party.



### Events, Opportunities and Wellness

Our Cornerstone tenants enjoyed several field trips this year. In February, we were lucky enough to see the Matisse Paper Cutting exhibit at MOMA in NYC. In April, we enjoyed The Orchid Show: Chandeliers at the New York Botanical Gardens. In July, we were ring-side spectators of a Hudson Valley Renegades baseball game in a skybox at Dutchess Stadium.



Cornerstone volunteerism is at an all-time high. We have over 20 Cornerstone tenants volunteering in varied capacities, from running a monthly BINGO game and tutoring GED students to monitoring our library and fitness center, helping out at concerts, doing set design for our community-theater partner and teaching art and quilting classes in the local community.



Residents and neighbors enjoy a full calendar of classes and activities in the Cornerstone Wellness Center.



### Resident Spotlight - Grady Parker

Grady Parker has been a resident of the Cornerstone for just over a year, but has been a familiar face in the lobby, where for as long as anyone can remember, Mr. Parker has been shining shoes six mornings a week.

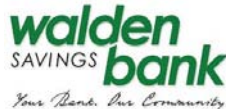
Grady, a veteran of World War II was married in Connecticut in 1952 and soon after moved his young bride to Newburgh. Mr. Parker became a chef in the historic Green Room back in the days of the Hotel Newburgh. He was also a cook at Cy's Diner on Broadway, where diners enjoyed his famous pot roast! After his stint as a chef, Mr. Parker took up the shoe shine business in the lobby where he has worked ever since!

Grady is a welcome and friendly sight to see in the morning and will shine your shoes until you can see your reflection!



## Safe Harbors Receives Generous Support!

Thank you to the following generous sponsors and foundations for their continued support!



2Alices Coffee Lounge  
Alexis Diner  
All Kinds of Signs  
Catania, Mahon, Milligram & Rider, PLLC  
CDPHP  
Colandrea GMC  
Collection Bureau of Hudson Valley  
Craig Thomas Pest Control  
Denniston Goldsith Bed & Breakfast  
Dick Polich & Cathy Kuttner  
FEAST Caterers  
Fit Body Boot Camp  
Flanagan Chiropractic  
Galati Pools, Inc.  
Giancarlo Lorusso  
Heights Lumber  
Independent Living

Innate Chiropractic  
Integrity Benefits  
Johnny's Riverside Deli  
June & Chris Henley  
Liberty Locksmith  
Loughran's Happy Irish Pub  
Lynn Warren Landscaping  
M&R Energy Resources Corporation  
Mobile Life Support Services, Inc.  
Mr. Cris Pizzeria  
New York Life Insurance  
Newburgh Brewing Company  
Newburgh Lions  
Newburgh Sharks  
Rank & Smith  
Rider, Weiner & Frankel, P.C.  
River City Films

RUPCO  
Sally's Fish Market  
SB Direct, Inc.  
School Aid Specialists, LLC  
SpaceCreate  
Sunshine Ford-Lincoln, Inc.  
Taco Hombre  
TEG Federal Credit Union  
The Center for Being, Knowing and Doing  
The Silverstone Family  
The Wherehouse  
Theresa Brown  
Ulster Savings Bank  
United A/C Refrigeration,  
Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  
Wagner Technical Services  
William A. Smith & Son, Inc.

## Your donation to Safe Harbors changes lives!

Show your support for Safe Harbors of the Hudson  
and help us continue to fulfill our mission:

*Transforming Lives and Building Communities  
through Housing and the Arts.*

## Make a donation today!

Visit our website [www.safe-harbors.org](http://www.safe-harbors.org) for simple online giving.







111 Broadway • Newburgh, NY 12550

PRESORTED STANDARD  
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PERMIT NO. 8604

## Make a Difference!

### Financial Contributions

Your donation or ongoing pledge will help Safe Harbors continue its important mission.

### Charitable Bequests

Consider leaving a legacy to help sustain Safe Harbors. Call Jen D'Andrea at (845) 562-6940 or email [jdandrea@safe-harbors.org](mailto:jdandrea@safe-harbors.org).



### Join our Mailing List

To receive e-updates on news and events for Safe Harbors of the Hudson, Ann Street Gallery and the Ritz Theater visit our website, call (845) 784-1109, or send an email request to [gbabbage@safe-harbors.org](mailto:gbabbage@safe-harbors.org).

### Become a Volunteer!

Safe Harbors, Ritz Theater and Ann Street Gallery have a variety of volunteer opportunities. We are seeking dependable, enthusiastic people interested in: marketing, development, special events, social services, GED tutoring and computer class instruction, library science, performing and visual arts and docenting. For more information call Jen D'Andrea at (845) 784-1107 or email [jdandrea@safe-harbors.org](mailto:jdandrea@safe-harbors.org).

## Become a Friend of Safe Harbors!

The Safe Harbors project integrates many things ... housing, visual and performing arts, urban green space, community building, economic development and is a model for urban revitalization.

We have been working over the past couple of years to embrace the unique strengths of our multi-faceted organization. We merged the Ritz Theater Board and the Safe Harbors board to create one super board, focused on the health of the entire project, we created a new logo to strengthen our brand as one organization with tremendous depth, breadth and impact. Now, we are integrating our Friends of the Gallery into Friends of Safe Harbors.

Supporters of Safe Harbors play a vital role in our ability to provide housing for our most vulnerable neighbors; to bring accessible and affordable world class visual and performing arts to our community; to create a cultural and social hub in our city center, to attract businesses to our main street and to contribute to the revitalization of our downtown.

We want to recognize all our supporters and to encourage your ownership, engagement and connection to the work we do. To that end and in heartfelt appreciation for your support, Safe Harbors would like to invite you to be our guest at a number of special events and programs.

### Give \$1,000 = Support TRANSFORMATION

*(All of the below plus)*

- Two tickets to the Safe Harbors of the Hudson 2016 Gala

### Give \$500 = Support QUALITY OF LIFE

*(All of the below plus)*

- Two season tickets to the 2016 Lobby at the Ritz Music Series

### Give \$250 = Support COMMUNITY

*(All of the below plus)*

- Two tickets to any 2016 performance at the Lobby at the Ritz Music Series

### Give \$100 = Support HOPE

*(All of the below plus)*

- Ann Street Gallery cotton t-shirt with logo
- Special Gallery talks and events

### Give \$50 = Support STRENGTH

- Partnering Museum benefits (Storm King Art Center & Katonah Art Museum)
- Recognition on Safe Harbors website

*Additional benefits and invitations will follow throughout the year!*