



museum bulletin

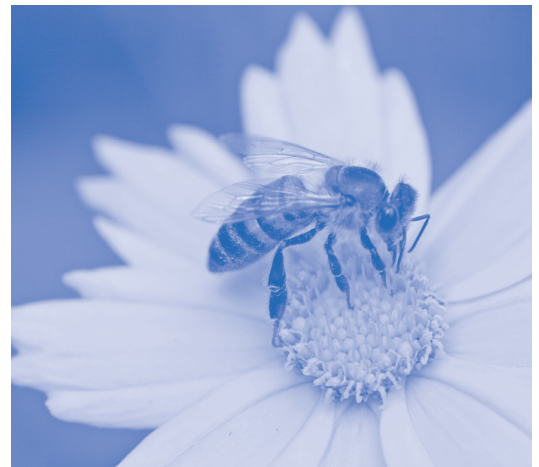
Stomping Grounds

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Humans interact with habitats every day. When we think of the word “habitat” we might picture a pristine area, secluded from humans, where exotic animals roam. What we might not think about are the habitats that are within arm’s reach. The patch of grass between the house and the driveway might not seem like an impressive natural area, but that small piece of land probably supports more life than you realize. Maybe there’s a rabbit digging its nest underneath a hydrangea, a bee gathering pollen from a dandelion, a worm munching leaves blown in from nearby oaks, or a box turtle passing through.

It’s important to remember that how we interact with our natural surroundings has an impact. There are obvious offenses against nature, like littering, but there are less obvious ones, too. Spraying herbicide on a dandelion gets rid of the plant, but it may have the undesired effect of making the bee sick or the herbicide washing into local water sources via runoff. Stepping off the path to avoid a puddle in the middle of a hiking trail keeps your feet dry in the moment, but over time this action could widen the trail, damaging plants and soil through compaction or erosion.



Our local habitats will be the topic of our upcoming natural history exhibit at the Wildlife Education Center, opening in the spring of 2019. Our “Birds on the Wing” exhibit has been on display in the Ogden Gallery since the winter of 2017 and in that time we’ve learned a lot about how best to use the space. We’ve enjoyed watching kids make bird-food picnics, pretend to fly with costume eagle wings, and draw songbirds from the window viewing station. We want our young community members to become just as immersed in our new Habitats exhibit. There’s a lot to see in the Hudson Valley and this exhibit will focus on the many different types of habitats you can visit without traveling far and how to make your visits more sustainable.

–By Emily Nestlerode

Look for these symbols to identify where an event will be held...



25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY
Saturday - Sunday from 12-4pm
Admission: \$5 for ages 3 & up
“Meet the Animals” Saturday & Sunday
1pm & 2:30pm
845.534.7781



120 Muser Drive, Cornwall, NY
Across from 174 Angola Road
Office hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:30am - 4pm
Visitors Center & Grasshopper Grove:
Weekends 10am - 4pm
April 13 - November 3
Admission: \$5 for ages 3 & up
845.534.5506
hhnm.org

Join us for the Grand Opening of our newest exhibit, “Stomping Grounds” April 6 and 7 at the Wildlife Education Center (see page 3 for details).

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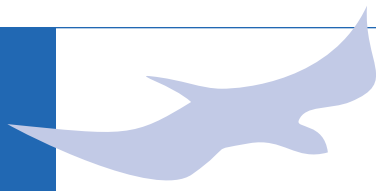
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Darcie Sirota



from the TOM BREGMAN Executive Director

Dear Friends:

I am a big fan of winter. As I write this note the first snow of the season has blanketed the Hudson Valley in white. It may be a coincidence, but in the six months I've been at the Nature Museum the region's weather has been particularly ferocious and unpredictable. We've endured heat, humidity, intense rains, wind storms and now ten inches of snow a full month before the winter solstice. Though I feel confident there is no direct connection, I've heard whispers from Nature Museum staff that the wild weather is somehow correlated with my arrival as Executive Director. I suppose only time will tell.



Speaking of coincidences, on the morning of the snow storm I attended a workshop hosted by Black Rock Forest on the development and design of wildlife corridors. Wildlife corridors are natural pathways through the landscape which allow animals to move and disperse without interference from human activities or structures. In addition to the keynote address by a renowned corridor expert from Northern Arizona University, several regional environmental organizations gave short presentations on the identification and development of corridors and landscape

connections in the Hudson Valley. Among the presenters and audience members were four of the ten Rising Environmental Leaders of the Hudson Valley the Nature Museum had honored just days before at our annual fundraiser. If you haven't already seen our short video introducing these ten talented people, please watch it on our website when you have a few minutes (hhnm.org). I know you will be energized by their passion, dedication, knowledge and intelligence.

Finally, in the spirit of the season, I urge you to check out the regular educational programming and special weekend events highlighted in the rest of this bulletin. I'm sure you'll find fun and interesting activities to keep you and your family occupied throughout this winter.

LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW!

Spotlight on... SARAH HANSEN Scholarship Recipient



John Brady, Sarah Hansen,
Tom Bregman, Susan Christensen

The winner of the 2018 Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Scholarship for Environmental Stewardship, Sarah Hansen, began her college career this fall at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry where she hopes that her studies will lead her to "[discover] more about our environment that will lead to inspiration for not only me, but for others in my community!" The Nature Museum is excited and grateful that Sarah, also an accomplished musician and dancer, shares in our mission of connecting our community to its natural resources and chose to further her studies in environmental science. We are proud to be able to support her education and we wish her the best in all her future endeavors!

Special Events for Families

STARLAB: INDOOR PLANETARIUM

Saturday, January 26
Three Sessions:
10am, 11:30am & 1pm

Take a celestial adventure through the magical night sky via the StarLab! Learn how to identify the important stars and the major constellations while listening to their Native American and Greek origin stories. This inflatable planetarium experience is recommended for adults and children four years and up.

Prepaid registration required. Walk-ins will not be admitted.

Admission: \$12 Adults & Children
Members: \$8 Adults & Children

MAPLE SUGAR TOURS! (SEE PAGE 6)

Saturdays & Sundays,
February 23 – March 17



members only

Prepaid registration
is required at
hhnm.org

or call

**845.534.5506
x204**



FIRST DAY OF SPRING FULL MOON WALK

Wednesday, March 20
7-8:30pm

Join us to celebrate the first day of spring and the last full moon of the winter season! Two seasons intersect on this special day when frogs will be singing while winter is still holding onto the air and earth. The March full moon is often called the Sap Moon by Native Americans; this time of year heralds the sugaring season when sap begins to flow in maple trees and the ground softens enough for earthworms to reappear, inviting the return of robins. Dress appropriately for weather conditions.

Prepaid registration required.

Admission: \$8 Adults, \$6 Children
Members: \$6 Adults, \$4 Children

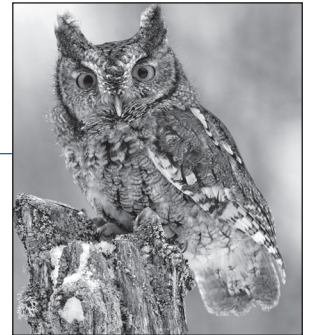
EXHIBIT GRAND OPENING: STOMPING GROUNDS

Saturday, April 6 &
Sunday, April 7

12 - 4:00pm
(Ribbon Cutting April 6 at 12:15pm)

It's time for a change in our Ogden Gallery! As the Birds on the Wing exhibit moves out, a new Habitats of the Hudson Valley exhibit moves in. What's so special about a beaver pond? What makes areas along the Hudson River unique? What's the one place in the Hudson Valley that's protected for migrating, meadow-loving birds? How can we keep these areas wild, but still use them for recreation and learning? Find out more about the vast array of habitat types that are right in your backyard as you explore new interactive elements, toys, books, and games. This indoor space is a great area to spend the afternoon with children. Opening weekend activities include crafts, refreshments, and "Meet the Animals" programs about native animals at 1pm & 2:30pm.

Admission: \$5 Adults & Children 3 & up
Members: FREE



OWL PROWL! Saturday, February 9 7-9pm

Owls have amazed and mystified humans for thousands of years. Each Owl Prowl will begin with an appearance of one of our owl ambassadors, so you can see the birds up close and discover their fascinating adaptations. Learn which species of owls may be found in the area before setting out on a guided after-dark walk, during which an educator will use a calling device to try and coax owls into the area for you to hear! **For adults and children ages seven years and up.**

Members: \$15 Adults & Children 7-17

MAPLE TREE TAPPING Sunday, February 17 10am-12pm

Rich, sweet maple sap will be drip, drip, dripping into pails at the Nature Museum all month long as our educators host a variety of events designed to show school groups and families how the sweet liquid makes the transition from tree to syrup! For the first time ever, join our educators as they prepare for the season with a special program which culminates with you tapping your very own maple tree! Participants will learn about the natural history and cultural origins of maple syrup, followed by a guided walk through the sugar bush to pick out and tap a tree using both traditional and modern tools and techniques! One tree per family. Trees are limited!

Members: \$15 Adults, \$10 Children ages 3 - 17

FAMILY FUN

EVERY WEEKEND!

WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

Saturday & Sunday, 12 – 4pm
year round

- Live animal exhibits with “Meet the Animals” programs Saturday & Sunday 1 & 2:30pm
- Interactive exhibit: “Stomping Grounds”

Admission: \$5 Adults & Children age 3 & above
Members: Free

SPECIAL SCHOOL BREAK OPEN HOURS AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

Friday, April 19, 12 – 4pm;
Meet the Animals 1pm & 2:30pm

Admission:
\$5 Adults & Children age 3 & above
Members: Free

Volunteers lend a hand in Grasshopper Grove



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers make an irreplaceable contribution to the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. Your willingness to lend a hand makes it possible for our staff to do more to meet the Nature Museum’s mission than we ever could on our own!

Sign-up with Jessica at 845-534-5506 x206 or email joliveri@hhnm.org

Maple Sugar Tours
Saturdays & Sundays
February 23 & 24;
March 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17
11am - 3pm

Lend a hand and make a difference at these “sweet” family friendly events!

Grasshopper Grove Clean-up
Saturday, March 30
10am – 2pm

Help open Grasshopper Grove for the season! We’ll pick up winter debris, bring out the toys, and do some other fun projects. Children welcome!

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SCHOOL BREAK CAMP AT THE OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER

APRIL 15 – 19, 9AM - 3PM, AGES 6 – 9

Looking for some vacation fun? Sign up for the Nature Museum’s spring break camp! Each day campers explore and play in the fields, ponds, and forests. Children’s natural curiosity will be nurtured through a variety of outdoor experiences like log turning, fort building, and searching for signs of spring. After playing outdoors, campers meet one of our resident animals and enjoy age appropriate crafts and games. Dress for the weather. Campers bring a lunch and we provide hot chocolate.

Prepaid registration required.

Non-members: \$48 per day Members: \$42 per day

Weekend Nature Programs



Join us for a series of interactive and engaging programs about science and nature. Programs may include a presentation, outdoor exploration on our grounds and a variety of other activities.

Unless otherwise noted all programs begin at 10am at the **Outdoor Discovery Center** and are suggested for adults and families with children over the age of five. Pre-registration is not required. Same day admission to the Wildlife Education Center is FREE after paid attendance for a Weekend Program.

Admission: \$8 adults, \$6 children

Members: \$5 adults, \$3 children



SATURDAY, JANUARY 19: FEAST FOR FEATHERED FRIENDS

Nature normally supplies food for our northern birds during the winter months. However, providing a little extra energy in winter can be helpful – especially if we want to invite our feathered friends in for a closer look! Learn about our Hudson Valley winter birds and how to attract them to your backyard.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27: TELLTALE TRACKS!

Join a naturalist on a wintry walk to discover “secrets in the snow” left by active winter animals. Go on a track “hunt”, learn how to identify animal tracks, and create a track shirt. Each person must bring a plain white pre-washed T-shirt.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2: CELEBRATE GROUNDHOG DAY!

Will there be an early spring? Learn about these furry fortune tellers and the history behind this age-old tradition. Join us for an informative talk about the groundhog, make a groundhog craft, and take a walk outside to look for your shadow!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10: SALAMANDER MIGRATION



As winter fades, these seldom-seen creatures emerge from hibernation to return to their vernal pools. On rainy nights in late winter, as we snuggle up on the couch, these tiny amphibians crawl through the melting snow pack and venture into wet roadways to continue the cycle of life. Meet some of these impressive adventurers and learn how you can volunteer as a citizen scientist with the Department of Environmental Conservation to help salamanders cross the roads.



Join Us!

It's MAPLE SUGARING season!



At the Outdoor Discovery Center

Saturdays and Sundays

February 23 & 24

March 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17

11am - 3pm

Admission:

\$10 Adults, \$8 Children ages 3 - 17

Members:

\$8 Adults, \$6 Children ages 3 - 17

Maple products and hot chocolate available for purchase in our Visitor Center gift shop.

Please wear boots and dress warmly!

Prepaid registration required!

**Walk-ins welcome if space allows
hnm.org**

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As winter ends, maple sugaring begins! Come visit us to see, learn, and most importantly, TASTE what the excitement is all about! Learn how to identify and tap sugar maple trees, discover sugaring techniques used throughout the ages, see an evaporator in action, and participate in our taste test challenge to see if you can tell the difference between maple-flavored syrup and the real thing.

Sugar Bush Tours: 11am, 1pm & 2pm; a one mile moderate hike through field and forest to the Sugar Bush Shack (terrain and weather conditions dependent)

Maple Lane Tours: 12pm & 3pm; perfect for little legs, a short walk from the Visitor Center to our Maple Lane Sugar Shack after a tour of the sugar maple stand.



Sweet Maple Syrup Celebration!

Saturday, February 23, 11am - 3pm

It's opening day! Come celebrate the beginning of **maple sugar season** and visit our Sugar Shacks! Get your tour ticket at the Visitors Center and join us for:

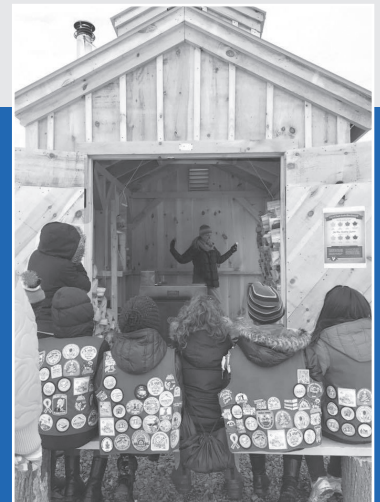
- Special crafts, games, and storytelling around the camp fire
- Treats of the sweet season
- Fun recipes for maple syrup

Just for Scouts ... Workshops & Programs

"Scouts Only" Maple Sugar Tours

February 23 & 24; March 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17
10 - 11am

Prepaid registration required
Scouts & Adults: \$6



Spring Scout Workshops!

Bring your troop, den or pack for an exciting day of learning and fun on the trails as they earn requirements for awards and badges. Workshops are held at the Outdoor Discovery Center

1:45 - 3:45pm Girl Scout/Cub Scouts

12:30 - 3:45pm Webelo/Arrow of Light

12:45 - 2:45pm Daisy

Scouts: \$15 Adults: Free (1 Adult per 5 Scouts)

Prepaid registration required. No refunds for no-shows on the day of workshops.

**REGISTER EARLY—
THESE EVENTS SELL OUT FAST!**

Mar 30 Brownie: Hiker

Mar 31 Webelo/Arrow of Light: Into the Woods
(12:30-3:45pm)

Apr 7 Wolf: Air of the Wolf

Apr 13 Daisy: Clover Petal (12:45-2:45pm)

May 4

May 5

May 11

May 18

Junior: Outdoor Art Explorer

Bear: A Bear Goes Fishing

Cadette: Trees

Tiger: Backyard Jungle

Animals & Nature Together ...ANTs!



Just for Kids!

Designed for children ages 2 - 4, this program provides an opportunity for children to learn about animals and have fun with their parent/grandparent/caregiver in a structured environment. Crafts, songs, stories, and hands-on exploration provide an enriching introduction to native animals. This one-of-a-kind program helps build an understanding and respect for the animals and plants in the Hudson Highlands, and is a great way to prepare your child for preschool!

WINTER SESSION – 6 WEEKS

*Snow days made up the next week

Monday: Jan 7 – Feb 25

(no class Jan 21 or Feb 18)

9:30am - 10:30am

11:00am - 12:00pm

Tuesday: Jan 15 – Feb 19

9:30am - 10:30am

11:00am - 12:00pm

Price per Adult/Child pair: \$90

Members: \$70

5% sibling discount

SPRING SESSION – 8 WEEKS

*Snow days made up the next week

Monday: Mar 11 – May 13 (no class Apr 15 or 22)

9:30am - 10:30am

11:00am - 12:00pm

Tuesday: Mar 12 – May 7

(no class Apr 16)

9:30am - 10:30am

11:00am - 12:00pm

Price per Adult/Child pair: \$120

Members: \$95

5% sibling discount

Your child **MUST** be 2 years of age to enroll. This is a special time for adults and toddlers. Kindly make arrangements for siblings over 9 months. Enrollment for each class is limited to ten adult/child pairs. Register early for your preferred day and time.

After School Adventures



3:45 - 5pm 4-week session

Members: \$75 Not-yet-members: \$90

BUG BONANZA! GRADES K – 2

Mondays, April 29 – May 20

The bugs are back! Let's go explore the tiny world of bugs. We'll use sweep nets in the field, dip nets in the pond, kick nets in the stream, shake the trees, and roll the logs of the forest in search of these enormously important little animals that call these places home! Space limited to 10.



SURVIVAL SITUATIONS GRADES 3 - 5

Tuesdays, April 30 – May 21

This fun afterschool class will be a safe way to learn how to survive in the woods! Learn the Rules of 3, how to make a debris shelter, fire starting techniques, ways of collecting water and how to read maps. We'll even make a mini-survival kit to take home! Space limited to 8.

Nature Play Clubs

The Museum will once again offer our popular Nature Play program for 4 and 5 year olds. Extend your child's outdoor playtime for up to three days a week. Playing in Grasshopper Grove and other places outdoors is a wonderful way to develop coordination, practice cooperation, and connect to the environment. Plus, the extended hours help children prepare for the full days of kindergarten.

WINTER SESSION – 6 WEEKS

Jan 7 – Mar 11

(No Clubs Jan 21, Feb 6, 15 & 18)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Early Bird Lunch Club: 10:15am - 12:15pm (for afternoon classes)

Later Gator Lunch Club:

11:45am – 1:45pm (for morning classes)

SPRING SESSION – 8 WEEKS

Mar 13 – May 20

(No Clubs Mar 15, Apr 3, 15, 17 & 19)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Early Bird Lunch Club: 10:15am - 12:15pm (for afternoon classes)

Later Gator Lunch Club:

11:45am – 1:45pm (for morning classes)

Per Session: \$305 for 3 days/week,

\$235 for 2 days/week,

\$125 for 1 day/week,

\$18/day drop-in

Prepaid registration required at hnm.org or call 845.534.5506 x204

Young Naturalist Preschool at the Outdoor Discovery Center!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020

Entering its 25th year, this popular program offers three- and four-year-olds the opportunity to interact with other students and with nature in a hands-on and exciting way. Young Naturalists learn letters, numbers, colors, and shapes by exploring, experimenting, and discovering the world around them. Young Naturalist program details, online application, and sample contract are available at hnm.org.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD CLASSES (4 years old by December 1, 2019)

- Owl Class: Mon thru Fri; 9 – 11:45am
- Deer Class: Mon thru Fri; 12:15 – 3pm
- Dragonfly Class: Mon, Wed, Fri; 12:15 - 3pm

THREE-YEAR-OLD CLASSES (3 years old by December 1, 2019)

- Turtle Class: Tues & Thurs; 9 - 11:45am
- Frog Class: Tues & Thurs; 12:15 - 3pm

THREE-YEAR-OLD CLASSES (3 years old by September 1, 2019)

- Bluebird Class: Mon, Wed, Fri; 9 - 11:45am

APPLY BY FEBRUARY 14TH TO RECEIVE PRIORITY REGISTRATION AS AN HNM MEMBER!

Open House:

Thursday, February 7 from 3:30 - 6 pm (snow date: February 8). Members new to the program are encouraged to attend. Teachers will be available to answer questions and distribute application forms.

PO Box 451
Cornwall, New York
12518



Museum
Bulletin ■
Winter/Spring 2019

Save the Date!
Hike-A-Thon & Earth Day
Celebration
Saturday, April 27



INCREASE YOUR IMPACT

CONNECT KIDS WITH NATURE FOR GENERATIONS!

Generations For Nature, the HHNM Planned Giving Circle, is made up of individuals who have included the Museum as beneficiaries in their estate plans. Their "planned gifts" may take many forms but they have one thing in common: their generosity will enable the Museum to fulfill its mission far into the future.

To join or to learn more, contact the Director of Development, Jessica Oliveri at 845.534.5506 x215

The Mission of the Museum is to create responsible caretakers of our environment. Through quality educational programs for the public that focus on the unique ecology of the Hudson Valley, the Museum promotes knowledge and appreciation of our natural world and the dynamic role of human interaction in its well-being.

hnm.org

Wildlife Education Center

25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845.534.7781

Open year round:
Saturday – Sunday from 12-4pm
Admission: \$5 for ages 3 & up
Members: Free

Outdoor Discovery Center

120 Muser Drive, Cornwall
(entrance across from 174 Angola Rd.)
845.534.5506 x204

- Grasshopper Grove
Open mid-April to mid-Nov
Saturday – Sunday from 10am-4pm
Admission: \$5 for ages 3 & up
Members: Free
- Trails open year round: Free

hnm.org

Chartered by:

NYS Board of Regents,
Office of Charities Registration

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