

Berkshires

Great Barrington

**CASTLE STREET CAFE**  
**Fri.** — Rob and Pete Putnam, Rob Kelly and Jeff Stevens; **Sat.** — Jack Pezzanelli Duo, guitar.

Pittsfield

**FLAVOURS RESTAURANT**  
**Fri.** — Ten Year Vamp; **Sat.** — Domino Theory. 75 North St., entrance on McKay Street, Pittsfield, (413) 443-3188.

Berkshire region

Clifton Park, N.Y.

**NORTHERN LIGHTS**  
**Tonight** — The Dirtywork Tour featuring All Time Low; **Sat.** — Reverend Horton Heat. Clifton Park, N.Y., (518) 371-0012.

Hudson, N.Y.

**CLUB HELSINKI**  
**Sat.** — Thin Edge Films, Thirsty Benefit, 9; **Sat.** — The Blind Boys of Alabama, 4. Hudson, N.Y.; helsinkihudson.com.

Norfolk, Conn.

**INFINITY MUSIC HALL**  
**Tonight** — Beau Bolero — Steely Dan Tribute, 8; **Fri.** — Antigone Rising with Seth Glier, 8, 8; **Sat.** — Molly Hatchet, 8; **Sun.** — Abbey Road Memories featuring Denny Laine of Wings and the Moody Blues, 7:30; **Tues.** — Asia, 8; **Wed.** — Judy Collins with Kenny White, 8. Route 44, 20 Greenwoods Road, Norfolk, Conn., (866) 666-6306.

Northampton

**IRON HORSE**  
**Tonight** — David Wax Museum with support, In One Wind, 7; **Fri.** — Son Flamenco 2011 with flamenco dancer Ines Arrubla and her band of flamenco, jazz and Latin musicians, 7; The Gallery with support, Matt Lowell, 10; **Sat.** — Patty Larkin with support, Pamela Means; Spiritual Rez with support, Jeff Bujak; **Tues.** — Paul Lieberman, 7; Latin Night with DJ Joey Acevedo, 10; **Wed.** — Neil Innes, 7. 20 Central St., (413) 586-8686.

**PEARL STREET**  
 Ballroom: **Sat.** — Uh Huh Her with Diamonds Under Fire, 8; **Wed.** — Shongle presents the Shpongleton Experience with Random Rab, 8:30. 10 Pearl St., (413) 584-0610.

Boston area

Boston

**HOUSE OF BLUES**  
**Tonight** — My Chemical Romance; **Fri.** — All Time Low, Yellowcard, Hey Monday, The Summer Set; **Mon.** — Deftones with Dillinger Escape Plan; **Wed.** — The Airborne Toxic Event. (617) 931-2000.

**PARADISE ROCK CLUB**  
**Fri.** — Tourantula; **Mon.** — Echo & the Bunnymen; **Tues.** — Sleigh Bells/CSS; **Wed.** — Twilight Singers. (617) 562-8800.

**ROYALE**  
**Tonight** — Shongle. Boston.  
**SCULLERS CLUB & DOUBLE TREE**  
**Tonight** — Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra; **Fri./Sat.** — Jerry Butler; **Wed.** — Howard Alden Guitar Trio; Bucky Pizzarelli and Jack Wilkins. (617) 562-4111.

in the Spotlight



Courtesy of the Williams College Music Department

**Baritone saxophonist Gary Smulyan will perform with the Williams Jazz Ensemble.**

Low-voiced reeds

**Who:** Baritone saxophonist Gary Smulyan with the Williams College Jazz Ensemble directed by Andy Jaffe

**Genre:** Veteran saxophonist Gary Smulyan, a denizen of the lower reed section, also plays the bass clarinet, an instrument that has not been as strongly championed as its baritone sax cousin, but which is capable, nevertheless, of as much sensual intrigue. He has performed and recorded with jazz and soul greats — including Freddie Hubbard, Dizzy Gillespie, and Stan Getz, Ray Charles, B.B. King, and Diana Ross.

The program includes Williams senior Rob Pasternak's thesis composition, 'Cinematic Suite,' which describes in a jazz idiom the emotional arc of an epic film.

**Upcoming performance:** Friday, 8 p.m.

**Where:** on the MainStage of the '62 Center.

**Admission:** Free

**Information:** music.williams.edu

Now it's Berkshires Week every day at BerkshiresWeek.com. Visit the site for daily updates on the cultural scene in the Berkshires.

Here are some of our suggestions to click on today:

- What's there to do? Check out Nightlife or our editor's Best Bets.
- Interact with us: Send us an image for a Daily Photo or let us know about community events at kabbott@berkshireeagle.com.



BY THE WAY

By Kate Abbott

Mom, I salute you with violets

**T**he important holiday there is Cinco de Mayo," says my friend born in San Antonio. She and her 17-month-old son have come to meet me at the playground down the hill from my house, and we are talking about May Day traditions as we push her boy on the blue swings.

Another friend has encouraged her daughter to make May baskets, as one of my childhood neighbors used to do. We have wildflowers enough now; on my way here, I cut across the park and found purple violets open.

My friend from Texas grew up celebrating Mexico on May 5, as I grew up with May Poles and, later, bonfires on the May 1 and wildflower walks on Mother's Day. She likes this playground because it is full of languages, Spanish spoken at a park bench, Braille alphabet near the sand box.

As we talk, we are giving half our minds to the toddler, who is watching the child on the next swing, then putting up his arms to be lifted down so he can pat a puppy with curling white hair.

My friend tells me that keeping up with him is delightful and tiring, as she

BY THE WAY, continued on D8



Ben Garver / Berkshire Eagle Staff

Al and Midge Trivers sort plants at the Berkshire Botanical Garden in preparation for the annual plant sale.

Plant sale grows

Botanical Garden adds blossoms and antiques

By Abigail Reifsnnyder

Special to The Eagle

**STOCKBRIDGE** — It doesn't take much: a couple of warm days, a couple of nights where temperatures dip only into the 40s, and gardeners are out with the mayflies, hovering

If you go ...

**What:** Berkshire Botanical Garden's newly expanded spring plant sale

**When:** Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Where:** Routes 102 and 183, Stockbridge

**Information:** (413) 298-3926, www.berkshirebotanical.org

**Staff picks:** What flowers can visitors look out for?

Jess Savory, BBG's head gardener, recommends *Salvia coccinea* 'Brenthurst.' (Give her a minute and she'll have another favorite.)

Dorthe Hviid, BBG director of horticulture, suggests the non-stop mocha pink begonia and the espresso geranium.

claim it's still cold, not cool, they return to their soil-turning, proving the ground is no longer frozen.

Taking full advantage of this feeling of urgency and anticipation, the Berkshire Botanical Garden hosts its annual plant sale. In its 34th year, the sale has grown this year to offer more than 5,000 plants, a combination of perennials and BBG-grown annuals — and 10 antiques dealers from Hudson, N.Y.

The antiques are new this year. The garden's chairman, Matt Larkin, has organized them with the theme of 'Furnishing Your Garden.' They will offer a range of garden furniture and curiosities, according to Larkin, ranging from what he calls "high country" to "big, sculptural chippy paint school" to "third world-style (but not hippie)."

A garden can become a living space, he said, and these dealers will show things people will not see at a garden center.

GARDEN, continued on D8

Horses help veterans to heal

By Telly Halkias

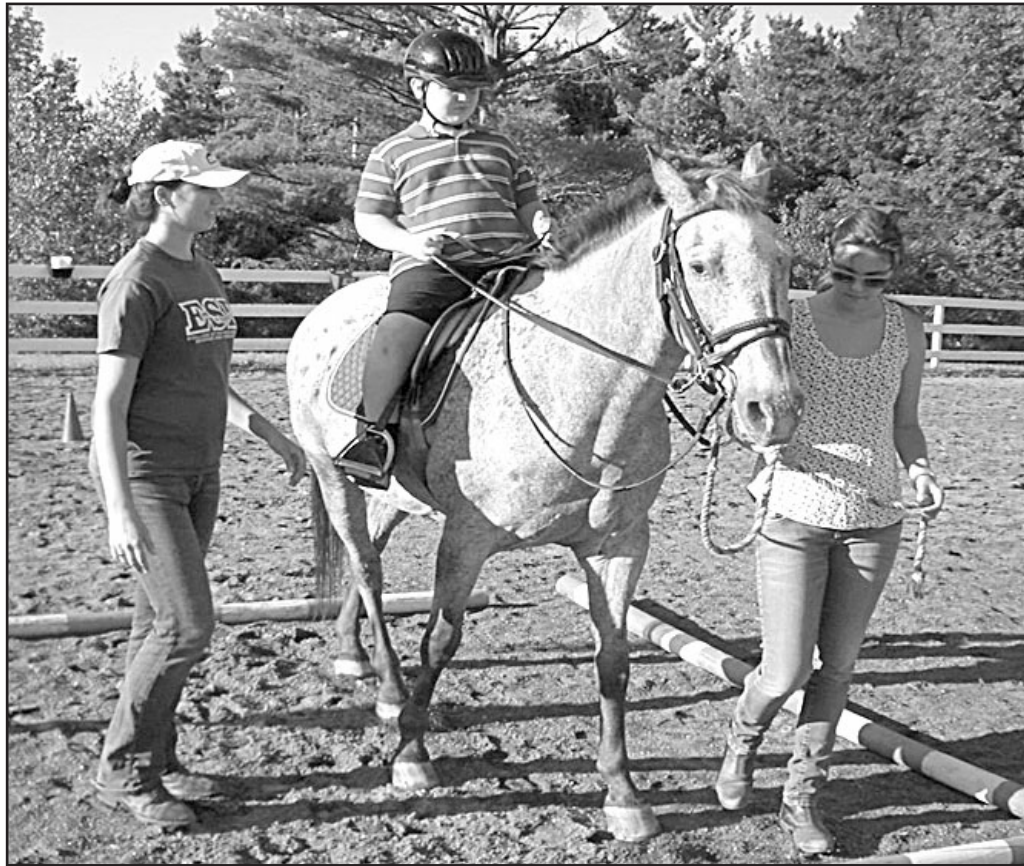
Special to The Eagle

**GHENT, N.Y.** — When living in Westchester County, N.Y., Laura Corsun didn't have many opportunities to interact with veterans. That changed when the lifelong equestrian and certified therapeutic riding instructor attended a course in New Hampshire. There, she met a large group of veterans affected by recent wars, and she resolved to use her skills to make a difference in their lives.

For the last decade, as owner of High-n-Mighty Therapeutic Riding and Driving Center, Corsun has led an institution helping those with disabilities realize the healing nature of horses. Veterans figure prominently in that pursuit, as High-n-Mighty will host an open barn on Thursday, May 12, to promote its year-old veterans riding program.

"That class I attended with all those veterans changed me forever," Corsun said recently from the 51-acre expanse of High-n-Mighty. "These men and women come back from war not just with physical wounds but also emotional and psychological anguish. PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) is often at the forefront of their lives. Our programs help all types of people with these same things. Why not reach out to those who have given everything in our country's name?"

And so in 2010 Corsun, who is certified by the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA), decided to add a



Courtesy of High-n-Mighty Farm

**Volunteers and riders at High-n-Mighty Farm Therapeutic Riding and Driving Center, a 51-acre farm in Ghent, N.Y., enjoy daily contact with horses for disability therapy. The center will host an Open Barn in support of its new veterans riding program.**

veterans riding program to High-n-Mighty's repertoire, under the auspices of the nationally recognized Horses for Heroes initiative.

By a vet, for vets

NARHA Horses for Heroes assists military veterans through services provided by association members like Corsun, and by exercising leadership and guidance for equine assisted activities and therapies, such as those at High-n-Mighty. To accomplish this

mission, NARHA centers connect with Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and clinics, as well as with individual veterans.

Veterans of any age can benefit from the program and by being involved with horses. Corsun, who currently has seven horses at the farm, said that after her New Hampshire experience, knowing a veteran had helped to start the national program was validation enough for her to proceed.

"The impetus for this came in 1997 from a retired Navy commander, Mary Jo Beckman, also a certified NARHA instructor," Corsun said. "Today, she practices this service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the country's largest military health care center."

According to NARHA literature, Beckman had heard a speaker describe how amputated Vietnam War veterans had benefited from

VETS, continued on D8



Eagle file

**Volunteers clean winter debris from a Berkshire trail.**

Get mud on your sneakers

Mid-spring outings and cleanup days

By Alison McGee

Special to The Eagle

Now that the notoriously muddy spring season is bursting into bloom, Berkshire residents can begin to scratch that itch to get outdoors — even if temperatures are still far from balmy and the ground seems to be holding on to the snow's soggy moisture, there are plenty of early-season events to get you going. The air may still have a slight chill, but the season is definitely warming up.

To return the favor to the natural areas that provide endless beauty for the taking-in (and often have small staffs), one of the most all-around rewarding activities this spring is to help local organizations recover from winter's wear and prepare for the summer season. By offering up part of a weekend, residents can help clean up trails, revitalize preserves, and

MUD, continued on D5