Artists’ exhibition. — Sharyn Flanagan
Art Collides, Saturday, November 7, 2–4 p.m., free, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, SUNY-New Paltz, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz; (845) 257-0844, www.sunypaltz.edu/museum.

Alex Mineewski exhibition at Wired Gallery in High Falls
A memorial exhibition of the work of the late New Paltz artist Alex Mineewski (1917–1979) will open on Saturday, November 7 at the Wired Gallery, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. sponsored by Stone Ridge Wine and Spirits. The exhibition will include works from Mineewski’s estate, including drawings inspired by his frequent visits to Monhegan Island, Maine, as well as oil paintings, watercolors, ceramics and a bronze sculpture.

“The Alex Mineewski exhibition opened at Wired Gallery in High Falls on November 7, 2015. The exhibition included works from Mineewski’s estate, including drawings inspired by his frequent visits to Monhegan Island, Maine, as well as oil paintings, watercolors, ceramics and a bronze sculpture.”

The Wired Gallery is located at 11 Mohonk Road in High Falls. For more information, visit www.thewiredgallery.com.

SebSi Studio in Saugerties to host Art Esopus gala/auction
The Esopus Creek Conservancy’s annual Art Esopus event – a fundraiser for one of the great natural resources of the region (and accompanying trail system, in Saugerties) – gets underway this weekend. Dozens of top local artists will drop off canvases that they’ve worked on or out working in various ways for a one week show and sale that kicks off with a gala party and auction next Saturday, November 14 and then closes the Sunday after, on November 22. Work is as diverse as the landscape and the wide assortment of artists participating.

Art Esopus works get dropped off November 7 for the November 14 sale and November 22 closing event, all at SebSi Studio on Main Street in Saugerties. – Paul Stuart

One Book/One New Palz to spotlight Orange is the New Black
One of the most popular shows is the Netflix series Orange is the New Black, which wrapped up its third season last June. Balancing weird, off-the-wall, over-the-top characters with serious questions about the need for prison reform, it has earned an obsessed loyal audience, much praise from critics and the befuddlement of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, which can’t seem to figure out whether it belongs in the Comedy or Drama category come Emmy Awards season.

But before it was a fictional TV series, Orange is the New Black was a nonfiction memoir by Piper Kerman, a middle-class Smith College grad who ended up in federal correctional facility in Danbury, Connecticut ten years after she helped a former lover smuggle a suitcase full of drug money. “Heartbreaking, hilarious and at times euragram, Kerman’s story offers a rare look into the lives of women in prison – why it is we lock so many away and what happens to them when they’re there,” says Goodreads.com of the book. Orange is the New Black has been selected as this fall’s community read for One Book/One New Palz.

Readings, panel discussions, screenings and presentations related to the book are scheduled every day from November 15 to 22 at various venues around New Palz. Probably the biggest draw will be an appearance by Barbara Rosenblat, the actress (above) who plays the character Miss Rosa on the TV series, taking place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, November 21 at Studley Theatre on the SUNY-New Paltz campus.

Also of special interest to fans of the show will be a talk by Hudson Valley resident Bernetta Calderone, a former corrections officer who serves a technical advisor to the program’s producers. That event begins at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 19 at the Elting Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. The library will screen “I Wasn’t Ready,” Episode 1 of Season 1 of Orange is the New Black, the following evening at the same time, with discussion to follow.

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18 at the Union Arts Center at 68 Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz Times columnist Susan Brotzick will screen her film The Game Changer, about her work teaching modern dance to prisoners at the Woodbourne Men’s Correctional Facility. Two of her students will perform. It’s but one of several One Book/One New Palz events that will tap the experience of local artists, educators, professionals and volunteers who have taught classes, led workshops or done other work at prisons in the Hudson Valley.

For the full schedule of Orange is the New Black happenings, visit http://onebookoneyenpalz.com/events. As part of the community read, Banner Books and the Inquiring Minds Bookstore in New Paltz are offering a ten percent discount on the purchase price of the book. Copies can be borrowed from the Elting Memorial Library, the county’s branch of the New York Public Library.

Through December 13, 2015
Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art
State University of New York at New Paltz
www.sunypaltz.edu/museum
Open Wed. – Sun. 11 am – 5 pm | (845) 257-0844

Best of both worlds

Great excitement! Almanac Weekly features a miscellany of art, entertainment and adventure from both sides of the Hudson.

True, we’re called Ulster County, but that was the land from which we sprang. Today we cover our historic homeland as well as Dutchess, Greene and Columbia counties.

www.thewiredgallery.com
Poet Joshua Mehigan at SUNY-New Paltz

Joshua Mehigan is a poet and professor. He has published poetry in many literary journals, including The Nation, The New Yorker, and The Paris Review. Mehigan is also the author of several books of poetry, including The Optimist (2014) and Accepting the Disaster (2004). In addition to his writing, Mehigan is an active performer, and he has appeared on numerous poetry slams and spoken word events.

Mehigan’s poetry is characterized by its exploration of themes such as identity, culture, and the relationship between the individual and society. His work often addresses larger social issues, such as the impact of technology on communication and the role of education in shaping one’s identity.

In his poem “The Optimist,” Mehigan writes:

“I wrote to Hayden Carruth once, and he gave me a very good piece of advice. He said to try to place my sympathies with other people.”

Mehigan will appear at the Honors Center in College Hall this Monday evening. The event, free and open to the public, is sponsored by the English Department and Creative Writing Program at SUNY-New Paltz.

Joshua Mehigan reading/book-signing, Monday, November 9, 7 p.m., Honors Center, College Hall. For more information, call 845-257-2755, uchnanos@newpaltz.edu.

Acme Mystery Company auditions in Rhinebeck

For nearly two decades, the Acme Mystery Company – based in Syracuse – has put on self-authored interactive mysteries, often in dinner-theater sessions and always in a way that actually paid its actors and backstage professionals. Now the company is setting up a satellite repertory company in Poughkeepsie, and looking for actors to fill roles in its 20-plus different productions each year.

“Non-Equity performers ages 18 to 80 are encouraged to attend,” reads the casting call for auditions on November 14-15 at the Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. “The Acme Mystery Company is a paid repertory theatre. Actors must be able to work quickly and efficiently. Actors need to travel; learn multiple scripts; use crazy characters and accents; and most importantly, have fun with their audiences.”

For more information, contact audition@acmemysterycompany.com.