



Soundings

JULY–AUGUST 2003 RADIO CATSKILL NEWS



Photo by Kurt Knuth

When local musician Doug Rogers and family dropped by the studios of WJFF for the June *Open House*, he and his accordion were put in front of a microphone and on the air. On the first Saturday of every month, WJFF welcomes the community to stop in for a visit, tour the hydro plant, or even perform live on the air. Al Troiani hosts.

WJFF LIVE ON THE INTERNET

WJFF is excited to announce that we are now streaming our signal live on the Internet! All of your favorite programs that you hear on air can now be heard live from our website as well. Maybe you get the station at home, but not at work? Maybe you have friends in other parts of the country—or the world—that you’ve always wanted to share WJFF with? Or maybe you’re only in the listening area part time and want to keep in touch with your other community? Please tune in, and help us spread the word. The broadcast can be accessed from our website at www.wjffradio.org.

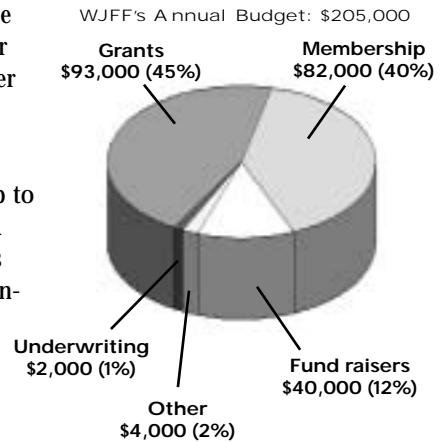
Continued on page 2

SUMMER FUND DRIVE COMING JULY 10TH

WJFF’s on air summer fund drive begins Thursday, July 10th. Starting at 5pm, we’ll be on air asking for the support of our growing community of listeners, and hoping you’ll consider calling in your pledge. The goal is \$20,000, and as always, the fund drive comes to a welcome end when we reach that goal.

We’d like to thank many of WJFF’s members and listeners for their support of the Spring Silent Drive. This attempt at bypassing an on-air drive with a mailing to members was a great success, raising over \$8,000 for the station! The response to the now annual Silent Drive has been so positive that we have been able to reduce the number of on-air drives to three per year.

WJFF’s annual budget is now up to over \$200,000. A huge part of this comes from listeners—whether by becoming a member or attending any one of our



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SUMMER PROGRAM CHANGES

See page 3 for complete details.

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LETTERS FROM LISTENERS

re: I LOVE STREAMING!!!!!!!

This is the best thing since sliced bread! WJFF at work on my computer-what a concept! Life has just improved by 1000%. We in NE Pennsylvania have been at a disadvantage for some time as only some of our radios can receive WJFF. I have one in my kitchen that does the trick, and one in my bedroom that mostly does the trick, but at work, I have been culturally deprived until the advent of your streaming broadcast. THANKS A WHOLE BUNCH!

- A.S., via email

No longer listen to WJFF and will no longer contribute. Get your funds from the Amy Goodman crowd.

- anonymous

Thank you very much for carrying the FCC reports and information! I would also like to express my appreciation for the programs from the Riverside Church.

More radio stations should be following your lead in community communications.

These issues are crucial to the well being of our entire country at this point in time and your station and the people making the decisions to carry these programs are to be lauded!

- F.D., Highmount, NY

Great Radio. As it should be all across the media.

- L., Woodbourne, NY

Summer fund drive, *Continued from page 1*

numerous events throughout the year.

There are a lot of ways to make this a successful fund drive. Interested in helping out? In addition to donations, we're always looking for more people to be involved in other aspects—contributing premiums, answering phones, talking on-air, or bringing in food for the rest of the volunteers. If you can help us in any of these aspects of the drive, please give us a call (845) 482-4141.

And if you want to help make this fund drive one of the fastest ever, please send in your donation early, marked "summer fund drive." This will start the clock ticking towards that \$20,000 goal, and will help reduce the amount of time we're on air interrupting your favorite programs asking for support. Send donations to WJFF Summer Fund Drive, P.O. Box 797, Jeffersonville, NY 12748.

Internet, *Continued from page 1*

We've been collecting some great feedback on listeners who have been tuning in online. We recently received an email from Germany where an old friend of Ursula Good's (host of Afternoon Classics and Café Ursula) was listening to her program live. This was followed a week later by postcards to Ursula from both Germany and Denmark from on-line listeners. We've had calls from Atlanta, GA, emails from California and Florida, and emails from weekend residents who want to keep in touch with the Catskills.

Check it out: <http://www.wjffradio.org!>

STAFF

Christine Ahern	Station Manager
Farmer John Bachman	Membership Directory
Jane Blake	Bookkeeping
Kurt Knuth	Interim Assistant Station Manager
Earle Nietzel	Chief Engineer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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 David Dann, Bill Duncan, Gail Palmisano, Stephan Schick

The Board of Trustees of Radio Catskill meets on the second Thursday of every month. Meetings are held at the Jeffersonville Branch of Western Sullivan Public Library on Center St. and begin at 7 pm. Meetings are open to the public (except for executive sessions) and time is provided for public discussion. For further information, call 845/482-4141 or send email to wjff@catskill.net

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SOUNDINGS

Contributors Kurt Knuth, John Bachman

WJFF Mission Statement: Radio Catskill is a non-commercial educational radio broadcaster whose mission is to make available to its community a broad range of ideas and ideals useful to a full and enlightened life. It also aims to involve the community in preserving and transmitting its own cultural heritage and artistic expressions in addition to those of the global community and to promote understanding among people of diverse social and cultural backgrounds.

SUMMER PROGRAM CHANGES

WJFF is pleased to announce the return of a broad array of public affairs programming weekdays at 2:00pm. These changes come about, in part, from Pacifica Radio's *Democracy Now!* returning to a single hour per day format.

Listeners Monday at 2:00pm can now hear lectures from a variety of sources, including *City Arts and Lectures*, *Voices of Public Intellectuals*, *The Commonwealth Club*, and *The National Press Club*.

Alternative Radio with host David Barsamian, a community radio mainstay for almost two decades, airs Tuesdays at 2:00pm.

Wednesdays at 2:00pm is a chance to hear two unique 30 minute cultural programs, *Soundprint*, with host Barbara Bogaev, and *Bookworm*, with host Michael Silverblatt.

Explorations, hosted by Dr. Michio Kaku is back by popular demand at 2:00pm. Formerly on Fridays, this unique science program can now be heard on Thursdays.

And with a recap of the week's media coverage of the news, check out *Counterspin* on Fridays at 2:00pm, followed by *TUC Radio*, or the work of other independent producers.

WJFF's late night Tuesdays return to their longtime lineup of *Loafer's Glory* with Utah Phillips at 10:00pm, followed at 11:00pm by *Women in Music* hosted by Laney Goodman.

WJFF-produced *Community Voices* tries out a new time at 2:30pm on Saturdays, followed by *Thistle & Shamrock* at 3:00pm, and *Afropop Worldwide* at 4:00pm.

WJFF is also pleased to welcome back two veteran producers to our programming schedule. Steve Richter, long time producer of Friday night's *Radio Ed*, is offering a new program of "pop music... with something to say," *The Richter Scale*, airing at 12:00 noon on Thursdays. Kurt Knuth, once and former host of *Radio Sol* will now serve up *Terrascope*, "an ethnographically informed consideration of world music," Sunday nights at 10:00pm.

Speak Up!

Call the WJFF's Voice Box and be heard.

845-295-1040

YIDDISH RADIO COMES TO THE BORSCHT BELT

"From atop the Loews State Theater Building, the B. Manischewitz Company, world's largest matzo bakers, happily presents Yiddish Melodies in Swing . . ."

This summer, WJFF is bringing Yiddish Radio home to the Catskills. Many listeners may have heard the award-winning *Yiddish Radio Project* documentary series that aired on NPR's *All Things Considered* last year. Henry Sapoznik, producer of the NPR series and founder of the Archives of Recorded Sound at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, has been working with us to bring back to the airwaves excerpts from the golden age of Yiddish Radio. Yiddish Radio flourished in New York City from the 1930's through the 1950's but very few recordings remain. And these are mostly found on about 1000 fragile phonograph discs rescued from attics, basements, dumpsters and garage sales.

When WJFF contacted Henry Sapoznik about putting together a program using excerpts from these old recordings, he responded with

Continued on page 8



CATSKILL ART SOCIETY
8th Annual
ARTISTS' STUDIO TOUR
Self-Guided Tour
Visit Over 60 Studios
Maps & Tickets - \$10.00 (includes Book Workshop)
Students & Children - FREE
Sat. & Sun. • 11am - 5pm
July 12 & 13
(Western Side of Sullivan County)
July 19 & 20
(Eastern Side of Sullivan County)
Information: 845-436-4227 or 845-887-5740

★
Sullivan County Area
Farmers Market
★

special events
July 13 ★ Callicoon
August 3 ★ Roscoe
Bill Engle will play the hammer dulcimer
11 am-2 pm

★ Vegetables ★ Fruit ★ Fine Artisan Crafts ★
Goat Cheese ★ Free Range Meats ★ Maple Products
★ Baked Goods ★ Chocolates ★ Jams, Jellies & Chutneys ★
(Not all products at all markets.)

**Call 845-292-6180 or visit
www.scafm.org for further info**

Liberty
Every Friday, 3 - 7 pm on Darbee Lane.

Callicoon
Every Sunday, 11am-2pm at the Callicoon Creek Park.

ROSCOE Every Sunday, 11 am - 2 pm on Highland Avenue.

Help support the market—totes & t-shirts available at all markets.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY

10:00AM

SUNDAY BRUNCH

- 7/6 Our "Summer Brunch!" Stop by!
- 7/13 Sunny Retro Radio
- 7/20 Brunch Jazz All-Stars
- 7/27 Your Musical Summer Vacation
- 8/3 Film Music of Bronsilan Kaper
- 8/10 Hollywood Swing...and Jazz!
- 8/17 "Bax for Brunch"
- 8/24 Bach to Basics...
- 8/31 Is Summer Over?
- 9/9 America's Heartland

12:00 PM

ALL TOGETHER NOW

- 7/6 Bobby's Long Ones
- 7/13 Baby You Can Drive My Fund
- 7/20 Neil's Appeal
- 7/27 Neil's Appeal
- 8/3 Gimme Jimi
- 8/10 Gimme More Jimi
- 8/17 What's 34 Years Between Friends?
- 8/24 Band of Gold
- 8/31 Sweet is the Sleep of the Laborer

2:00 PM

PIANO JAZZ

- 7/6 Nicholas Payton
- 7/13 Sarah Jane Cion
- 7/20 Dizzy Gilliespie
- 7/27 Dave Frishberg
- 8/3 Clare Hansson
- 8/10 Richard Sudhalter
- 8/17 Chucho Valdés
- 8/24 Johnny Frigo
- 8/31 Paul Bley

8:30 PM

WORDS OF WISDOM

- 7/6 Tara Brach- "Radical Self-Acceptance"
- 7/13 Hope Edelman- "Mother Loss"
- 7/20 Alan Watts- "Learning the Human Game"
- 7/27 Peter A. Levine- "Sexual Healing"
- 8/3 Georg Feuerstein- "The Lost Teachings of Yoga"
- 8/10 Clarissa Pinkola Estes- "The Beginner's Guide to Dream Interpretation"
- 8/17 Karla McLaren- "Energetic Boundaries"
- 8/24 Fremantle/Trungpa/Gere- "The Tibetan Book of the Dead"
- 8/31 Vasant Lad- "Aryurveda: The Science of Life"

On the web
www.wjffradio.org

MONDAY

12:00 NOON

MONDAY AFTERNOON CLASSICS

Monday Afternoon Classics with Gandalf will continue to focus on minimalist and other inscrutable performances from the 20th and 21st Centuries throughout the months of July and August. The program will also feature occasional guest interviews.

7:30 PM

CROSSCURRENTS

- 7/7 Satchmo's Sound/Satchmo's Legacy
- 7/14 Lee Morgan/Hard Bop Trumpet
- 7/21 Jazz Alphabet
- 7/28 Sonny Clark/Modern Piano Today
- 8/4 Benny Carter/James Carter
- 8/11 The Blues, Pt. VI
- 8/18 The Count of Basie
- 8/25 Prez & Bird

11:00 PM

WORLDWIDE JAZZ

- 7/7 West German Radio Big Band
- 7/14 Maastricht Conservatory Big Band
- 7/21 Jazz Orchestra of the Concertbegouw
- 7/28 Big Band Metropole Meets Jim McNeely
- 8/4 Piet Nordijk's 75th Birthday Concert
- 8/11 Mike del Ferro Trio
- 8/18 Mike Carr's Blue Note Band
- 8/25 The Beau Hunks Saxophone Soccette

SATURDAY

2:30PM

THISTLE & SHAMROCK

- 7/5 Worlds of Celtic Music: Past
- 7/12 Abby Newton
- 7/19 New from Northern Isles
- 8/2 Brian McNeill
- 8/9 Summer Light
- 8/16 Singers and Songwriters
- 8/23 Name Your Celtic Favorites...
- 8/30 Alison Brown

3:30PM

AFROPOP

- 7/5 Simba Wanyika, Live in Toronto
- 7/12 Journeys with the Oud
- 7/19 On the Festival Road: Tracing the Arab Diaspora from Detroit to Morocco
- 7/26 Summer 2003 Afropop Worldwide Dance Party

6:00 PM

SELECTED SHORTS

- 7/5 "The Fortunes of Madame Organza" by Natalie Babbitt, read by Janel Moloney; "In the Spring" by Guy de Maupassant, read by Marg Helgenberger; "Melisande" by Edith Nesbit, read by Jane Curtin
- 7/12 "The Unfound Pig" by Max Steele, read by Steven Gilborn; "Music for Airports" by Charles Baxter, read by Hector Elizondo; "What I Saw from Where I Stood" by Marisa Silver, read by Billy Campbell
- 7/19 "The Six Sillies" (a traditional folk tale), read by Edie McClurg; "Moving Pictures" by Charles Johnson, read by Rocky Carroll; "The Big Hunger" by John Fante, read by Isaiah Sheffer
- 7/26 "War Doll Hotel" by Kiana Davenport, read by Maria Tucci; "The 5:22" by George Harrar, read by Arliss Howard
- 8/2 "Big Bend" by Bill Roorbach, read by James Cromwell
- 8/9 "Awakening" by Isaac Babel, read by Joseph Wiseman; "Like Mother Used to Make" by Shirley Jackson, read by Don Stephenson
- 8/16 "In the Country" by Guy de Maupassant, read by Thomas Gibson; "But It Got Better" by Abigail Thomas, read by Joanna Gleason; "The Cooking Poet" by Samrat Upadhyay, read by Leonard Nimoy
- 8/23 "Nineteen Fifty-five" by Alice Walker, read by Viola Davis; "Seizing Control" by Mary Robison, read by Mia Dillon
- 8/30 "Vivian, Fort Barnwell" by Ethan Canin, read by Steven Gilborn; "Mother Savage" by Guy de Maupassant, read by Alan Rosenberg; "The Fourth Prussian Dynasty" by Karen E. Bender, read by Frances Sternhagen

7:00PM

SCHICKELE MIX

- 7/5 Back to Basics
- 7/12 Hold That Note!
- 7/19 Mutes and Mutability
- 7/26 A Many-Splendored String
- 8/2 Schickele Mix: The Movie
- 8/9 Do I Hear the Waltz? Well, Do I?
- 8/16 Beyond the Blue Danube
- 8/23 Let's Get This Thing Over With!
- 8/30 Great Endings I Have Known

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6 AM	Morning Edition <i>News and Arts Features with Bob Edwards</i>					Ballads & Banjos <i>with Sonja Hedlund</i>	Millenium of Music
7 AM							Harmonia
8 AM	BBC News Hour <i>From BBC World Service</i>					Weekend Edition <i>News with Scott Simon</i>	Weekend Edition <i>News with Liane Hansen</i>
9 AM	Democracy Now! <i>with Amy Goodman</i>						
10 AM	Performance Today <i>Classical music, interviews and criticism</i>					Car Talk	Sunday Brunch <i>with Glenn Wooddell</i>
11 AM							
12 PM	Afternoon Classics <i>with Gandalf</i>	Music from the Stage* <i>with Muriel Goldrich & Martin Sabowitz</i>	Afternoon Classics <i>with Cecily Fortescue</i>	Richter Scale <i>with Steve Richter</i>	Afternoon Classics <i>with Ursula Good</i>	Folk Plus <i>with Angela Page</i>	All Together Now <i>with Larry Burrows</i>
1 PM				Country Crossroads <i>with John Bachman</i>			
2 PM	Lectures	Alternative Radio	Soundprint	Explorations <i>with Michio Kaku</i>	Public Affairs	Community Voices	Piano Jazz <i>with Marian McPartland</i>
			Bookworm				
3 PM	Fresh Air <i>Arts Interviews with Terry Gross</i>					Thistle & Shamrock <i>Celtic</i>	Panorama <i>with Marco bocanumenth</i>
4 PM	All Things Considered						
5 PM							
6 PM	Free Speech Radio News					Selected Shorts	This American Life
	As It Happens <i>News from Canada</i>						
7 PM	Crosscurrents <i>Jazz with David Dann</i>	Making Contact	Emotional Rescue <i>with Kae Kotarski</i>	Gumbo Shop <i>with Maris Hearn</i>	Dead Air <i>with Dan Loiola</i>	Schickele Mix	Gift of Peace <i>with Lisa Brody & Jim McKeegan</i>
8 PM		WJFF Connections <i>with Dick Riesling</i>					
9 PM		Making Waves <i>Environment, Issues and Arts</i>	Earthsongs alt. w/ Radio Revolution	Riverside Cafe <i>with Maureen Neville</i>	E-Town	First Class Classics <i>with Walter Keller</i>	Jeffhorse <i>Produced by Kevin Gref</i>
10 PM	Yiddish Radio	Loafer's Glory <i>with Utah Phillips</i>	Telepathic Radio <i>with Jason Dole</i>	Soul Spectrum <i>with Liberty Green</i>	Out, Loud & Queer <i>with Kathy Rieser</i>	Chucks' Old Skool Sessions	Terrascope <i>with Kurt Knuth</i>
11 PM	Worldwide Jazz	Women In Music			Audio Visual <i>with Catskill Coyote</i>		Specials



WJFF
Community Radio

Performers!
Here's Another place to do Your Thing!

WJFF's Open House
From 1:30 to 4:00 pm on the 1st Saturday of the month, visitors are welcome to come to the station, tour the studios and the hydropower plant, and even perform live on the air.

If you'd like to be involved, call us at 845-482-4141 or just stop by. We're right at the foot of Lake Jefferson on State Rt. 52 in Jeffersonville.

* *Borders* airs at 12:00 pm on Tuesdays; ** *Jambalaya*, *Community Voices* and *Thistle & Shamrock* air weekly except for the first Saturday of each month, when WJFF's *Open House* is aired; *** *Radio Catskill Cosmic Calendar* airs at 7:19 am on Mondays, 5:59 pm on Wednesdays, and 6:59 pm on Sundays.

MARIS HEARN'S *GUMBO SHOP* CELEBRATING ELEVEN YEARS ON AIR

When the familiar strains of Hazel Dickens' "Are They Gonna Make Us Outlaws Again" are heard on WJFF, you know it's Thursday, and it's time for *The Gumbo Shop* with Maris Hearn. This July marks the eleventh anniversary of Maris Hearn hosting *The Gumbo Shop* Thursdays from 7:30 - 9pm. And the show is indeed a gumbo. As Maris' promo says, "I'll share with you the performers, music, and words that move, and delight and sustain me." And she is true to her word.

The Gumbo Shop goes back to the early spring of 1990, just a couple of months after WJFF first signed on the air. The show's first host was Warwick resident Russ Layne, who some may remember for his spicy mix of blues, jazz, zydeco and samba. In the spring of 1992, after a couple of years of long commutes, Russ turned the show over to the capable hands of newer volunteers Maris Hearn and Judy Zigmund. Maris and Judy alternated weeks hosting *The Gumbo Shop*. By 1994 Maris was producing the show on her own, while Judy Zigmund became the host of WJFF's *Open House*.

Maris Hearn's *Gumbo Shop* is an eclec-

tic mix of music. The emphasis is mostly on folk, but don't be surprised when you tune in on a Thursday night to hear some jazz, rock, world and more mixed in. Maris calls it "music with a mind behind it." She first decided to produce the show because she had such a large collection of music (mostly vinyl at that time) that she wanted to share with other people. She was a long time radio listener and had some wonderful music—especially by women—that wasn't being played on most of the radio programs she heard.

But Maris' show is not only about the music. She's also famous for her weekly calendar that covers everything from dates, people, events, things and ideas that people might want to celebrate, honor, observe or protest. You'll hear everything from the dates of Beltane and Lamas, to the anniversary of Hiroshima, to honoring the birth of Henry Thoreau, to recognizing birthdays of Joan Baez, activist Ida B. Wells, or suffragette Lucy Stone. She tends to put the calendar early in the show. And the music played later often relates back to calendar items mentioned earlier. She'll also have the occasional guest,

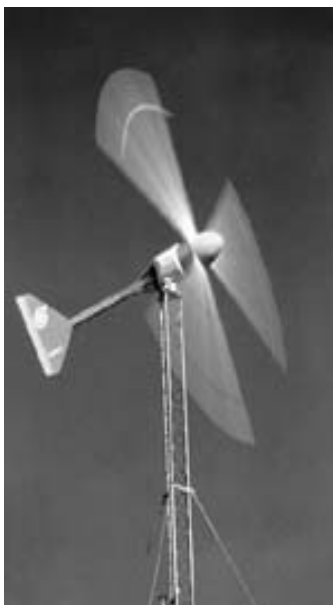
whether a musician (she recently invited longtime women's music legend Alix Dobkin on the air) or not (farmers from a local organic farm came on to talk about what they do—a Community Supported Agriculture program). After 11 years, that list of occasional guests is as varied as it is long!

Maris has persevered in her show, despite some daunting odds. She started at WJFF as a volunteer while she was taking six weeks off from work to receive radiation treatment for breast cancer in 1991. Years later, after she retired full time up to her cabin in Forestburgh, she was diagnosed with breast cancer again, and underwent chemotherapy. And then in 2002 she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and went through still another chemotherapy treatment. All this while living in a cabin in the woods of Forestburgh, with no electricity (until she installed a solar power system in the late 90's), no running water, and a 1/2 mile hike (or ski, or snowshoe depending on the whether) to get home.

While illness, personal set backs or losses might daunt others, Maris has developed a beautiful way of incorporating her life into her show. After the death of her father in 1995, Maris produced one of her most personally memorable shows "Remembering My Father." And during two rounds of chemotherapy and the baldness it caused, she would play at least one "hair" song each show (and this lasted until her hair grew back). Even sexual orientation plays a big part of *The Gumbo Shop*. For the annual Coming Out Day, you'll hear Maris introduce herself at the beginning of the show, "My name is Maris Hearn, and I'm a Lesbian," and follow that with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender music.

Energy and Passion are operative words for Maris. She is an avid bike rider. She's a member of the Sullivan

Continued on page 8



Apple Pond Farming and Renewable Energy Education Center

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 6/29-9/1 Farm tours—Saturday 11:00,
 Sunday 1:00 and 3:00 or by reservation
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 7/19 Learn to spin wool
 8/2 How to care for goats

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Member, Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce

Wish List

Got it? Don't need it? We could use it!

- Upright Piano in good condition
- New Pentium IV computer
- Older model Pentium (400mhz or better) in good condition
- Computer Monitors in good condition
- Station Volunteers
- Fund Drive phone answerers

Yes, I want to join Radio Catskill. Please sign me up as I've indicated below.

My tax-deductible check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student / Senior \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend (amount) \$ _____ |

Name _____
Street _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____

Send to:
Radio Catskill
P.O. Box 797
Jeffersonville, NY 12748

RADIO CATSKILL NEWS, CONT.

Yiddish Radio, *Continued from page 3*
enthusiasm, saying that WJFF was the first station bold enough to put Yiddish radio back on the airwaves. Running an hour a week through the summer, the program will include radio dramas, excerpts from Rabbi Rubin's "Court of the Air", advice from "The Jewish Philosopher", vintage commercials, and music. Beginning July 14th and continuing through the summer, the program will air on Monday evenings at 10 o'clock.

Gumbo Shop, *Continued from page 6*
County bike club, has participated in the Sullivan County AIDS ride, and did the very first Boston to NYC AIDS ride. Despite chemotherapy, Maris would often take a 30-mile bike ride in the afternoon and then come in to the station to produce her show for that night.

Maris is probably the best at describing herself... "I'm a vegetarian, earth-lover, peace/justice/freedom-nik, les-

bian, biker, radical ecofeminist of sorts, language-lover, survivor and all-around non-standard American...." And all of those things make it into *The Gumbo Shop!* Be sure to listen in on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9pm.

Contact us...
WJFF • Radio Catskill
P.O. Box 797
Jeffersonville, NY 12748
wjff@catskill.net
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