



Soundings

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2003

RADIO CATSKILL NEWS



DJ Chucks (Charles Anderson) in full swing at the turntables on *Old Skool Sessions*. On October 25th, Chucks is celebrating his third anniversary producing *Old Skool Sessions* on WJFF. It can be heard Saturday nights from 10pm to midnight. For more on Chucks, and other volunteers celebrating anniversaries, see page 3.

WJFF SERVES UP RADIO TO GO!

WJFF is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a \$35,000 grant from The Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a project called *Radio To Go*, which will encompass a portable studio in a van, with the ability to travel throughout our listening area for outreach, news and story gathering, and community radio trainings.

Earlier this year, The Corporation for Public Broadcasting offered an opportunity for rural stations to apply for funding that would help them better serve their listening area. For

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT WJFF'S AUTUMN EVENTS

Third Annual Pumpkin Party Planned for October 18th

WJFF staff and volunteers invite our listening community to the Third Annual Pumpkin Party at Apple Pond Farm in Callicoon Center, New York, on Saturday, October 18th from noon to 4pm. Once again, the day will feature pumpkins galore, horse drawn wagon rides, a mini hay maze, mural painting, a hay bale toss, refreshments and more. There will be activities for both children and adults. Admission is free, with pumpkins and horse drawn wagon rides available for a charge—all to benefit WJFF.

The Pumpkin Party is always a great community event, bringing people of all ages together at Apple Pond Farm for a beautiful fall afternoon full of activities and great company.

We'd like to thank Apple Pond Farming Center for once again hosting this event. They are located at 80 Hahn Road, Callicoon Center. Musicians to entertain and other volunteers are needed. If you can help out, please contact Sonja Hedlund at Apple Pond Farm: (845) 482-4764 or sonja@applepondfarm.com.

WJFF Presents Chamber Music at Big Twig Studios

WJFF is thrilled to bring pianist Juny Jung and cellist Rafal Jeziersky together for a late afternoon chamber music concert at the beautiful Big Twig Studios in Roscoe, NY on Saturday, October 25th at 4pm. The event will feature solo piano and chamber music works, including *Sonata Judaica*, composed by area resident Stephen Mayer. The event will be followed by a dinner and reception.

Stay tuned to WJFF, or check out our website for more details: www.wjffradio.org.

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COMMENTS FROM LISTENER SURVEYS

What do you like best about WJFF?

- Community operated, hydro-powered, progressive. Great Music.
- We like the diversity. Even though we don't agree with every thing we hear, we think it's important to listen and appreciate different points of view...from "Amy" to "Out Loud" to NPR to "World Music."
- Frequent weather reports and the great variety of programs.
- The non-professional atmosphere—the neighbor-local feel of hosts and presentations.
- Its eclectic mix and democratic openness in a politically varied region.
- The community voice/small scale. Steve Richter is the best! As is Kae Kotarski. Can you clone these people? Do you think they would mind?
- Infinite variety.

What would you most like to change?

- I do not like the BBC at all.
- Supply a proper envelope for this large survey.
- I would like to see Amy Goodman be more even-handed with her Middle East stories.
- Push the signal further east so that my friends know what I'm talking about when I say, "I heard it on Jeff."
- Car Talk really irritates me—the sound of their voices does it.
- Less extended news coverage of breaking news (start of war, war protests, Columbia crash)—that's what news stations are for.
- Less leftist stuff—Democracy Now! and Pacifica and one local show—very left wing fringe.
- Performance Today is very stale and canned. I would like more local programming or contemporary music (worldbeat or other) in the a.m.
- I, and many I speak to, feel we don't need to hear a Salsa program, a Yiddish program, a Polish program, an Italian program. Information is more valuable. Not to single out a particular group—I adore all forms of ethnic music—we just need more information to develop our awareness.



WJFF's engineer, Earle Nietzel, troubleshoots the transmitter on August 14th, following the largest blackout in U.S. history. While WJFF's studios are powered by Jeffersonville Hydroelectric, the tower is located in Liberty and, unfortunately, is on the grid. Power surges and fluctuations took a toll on the transmitter and left WJFF broadcasting at low-power for a couple of days.

STAFF

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

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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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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.

WJFF CELEBRATES LOCAL PROGRAMMING

WJFF likes to acknowledge the programmers and programs that are celebrating anniversaries. Here are some of those programs that began during September and October in years past.

Afternoon Classics with Gandalf

Gandalf (Robert Rosengard) is celebrating six years of bringing 20th and 21st Century classical music to the WJFF airwaves with *Afternoon Classics with Gandalf*, from noon to 2pm on Mondays. Gandalf first came to the station in the early fall of 1997 as a guest on *Music of the Stage* with Marty Sabowitz and Muriel Goldrich. He had such a good time that he stopped by the station the following week while Marty and Muriel were back on the air. That day, we told him "once you're a guest, twice you're a volunteer"—and he took us seriously! It only took a couple of weeks for him to start filling in as a guest host on both *The Opera Show* and *Afternoon Classics*. Before long, he took over as permanent producer on Mondays when then host Simon Chausse was unable to continue.

Gandalf didn't plan on a show focusing on 20th century classical music. But from the start, he would include at least one modern classical music piece in each week's set. The response from listeners was so positive that within a few weeks he knew, as he says, "I had my hook."

Gandalf has given us a broad look at 20th and 21st century music, including retrospectives on a number of composers' works. We've heard all of Mahler's pieces, followed by Schoenberg, Stravinsky, Bartok and then a long look at the minimalists. As Gandalf learns more and more about this music himself, he is eager to share it with listeners. And his enthusiasm has won him a loyal listening audience. But he's also brought to the airwaves some remarkable interviews with a number of composers working today. We've heard discussions with composers such as David Del Tredicci, Steven Mayer, Justin Kolb, Joan Tower, Frank Retzel, Richard Einhorn, Osvaldo Golijov,

Ned Rorem, Jon Corigliano, Terry Riley, George Walker and Roger Hannay, David Tcimpidis and Amy Dissanayaka to name just a few.

Tune in to *Monday Afternoon Classics with Gandalf* each Monday from 12 noon to 2pm and join us in celebrating his six years on air.

DJ Chucks & the Old Skool Sessions

DJ Chucks (Charles Anderson) is celebrating his third anniversary producing *Old Skool Sessions* on Saturday, October 25th. Chucks came to WJFF soon after moving to Sullivan County from Florida where he had gotten his first taste of producing radio. But Chucks was no novice at spinning records. As a kid in the Bronx in the 1970's, he says that everyone spun records at house parties. Before he could even read, Chucks learned the way one of his older brothers marked his records with initials—one initial for the instrumental side and two initials for the vocal side. And when he was as young as two years old, he would be at house parties with his parents and their friends and be allowed to pick out records and run the turntable.

In the late '70's his family moved to Queens just as the trend of building mobile sound systems that were brought to city parks was taking off. It became a competitive thing, Chucks relates. "The bigger the sound system, the better the crowd," he says. He

was still too young to DJ himself (he was too short to reach the turntables and mixer), but he became a record boy for his brother—passing the records. For this, he needed special permission from his mother to stay out late with his brother and cousins. They taught him a lot about mixing, what labels to look for, what was current in domestic and import music, and where to find the hottest 12-inch LPs.

What you'll hear on Saturday nights with Chucks is Old Skool. And that, he says, is "anything that the commercial stations don't play anymore," or "real good music." You'll hear 60's, 70's, 80's music - rock, soft pop, early rock and punk, maybe even a little honky-tonk drum roll. Chuck's likes the 80's sounds because it's what he grew up with. Rap was part of his street turntabling in the late 70's, but didn't get on vinyl and onto the radio until the early '80's. And you'll hear those early sounds on the *Old Skool Session*. Chucks' mother is from Jamaica, and her love of Jamaican music was passed onto Chucks. Tune in for his occasional Rock Steady shows that pay tribute to the blue beat, rock steady, ska and reggae music from Jamaica. And Chucks loves to bring us hip-hop, garage, and disco music.

Listen in on Saturday nights from 10pm on—you'll be in for a treat!

Continued on page 6

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY

10:00AM

SUNDAY BRUNCH

- 9/7 Rusty, Sparky & Friends
- 9/14 America's Heartland
- 9/21 Film Music of Dimitri Tiomkin
- 9/28 Musical Change of Season
- 10/5 Welcome the Boulanger Sisters
- 10/12 Hollywood's Best
- 10/19 "Rite of Spring" Revisited
- 10/26 "Colours"

12:00 PM

ALL TOGETHER NOW

- 9/7 When it was Crimson King
- 9/14 When it was King Crimson
- 9/21 Yes, Indeed
- 9/28 Newish Year
- 10/5 Fast is Slow
- 10/12 Under the Stars
- 10/19 Dancing up a Storm
- 10/26 Beware of Darkness
- 11/1 Ua mau ke'ea o k'aina i kaponu

2:00 PM

PIANO JAZZ

- 9/7 Carmen Lundy
- 9/14 J.J. Johnson
- 9/21 Bill Dobbins
- 9/28 Ravi Coltrane
- 9/5 Elvis Costello
- 10/12 Judy Roberts
- 10/19 Pete Malinverni
- 10/26 Matt Dennis
- 11/2 Kenny Barron

8:30 PM

WORDS OF WISDOM

- 9/7 Vasant Lad: "Aryurveda: The Science of Life"
- 9/14 Jean Shinoda Bolen: "Wise-Woman Archetype: Menopause as Initiation"
- 9/21 Johnny Moses: "Medicine Path: Healing Songs & Stories of the Northwest Native Americans"
- 9/28 Pandit Rajmani Tigunait: "Nine

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You've heard us say it but do you listen? If you tune in WJFF at our 94.5fm frequency please let us know as we consider some changes regarding our Monticello transmitter. Call 845/482-4141.

- Steps to Disarming the Mind"
- 10/5 Alan Watts: "Myself: A Case of Mistaken Identity"
- 10/12 Pema Chodron: "Good Medicine"
- 10/19 Harville Hendrix: "Getting the Love you Want: A Guide for Couples"
- 10/26 Thich Nhat Hanh: "Call Me By My True Names: The Life, Poetry, and Teachings of Thich Nhat Hanh"

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 September and October. The program will also feature occasional guest interviews.

7:30 PM

CROSSCURRENTS

- 9/1 Mini-tributes: Kenny Dorham, Art Pepper, Ernie Henry, Horace Silver, Clifford Jordan
- 9/8 Sonny Rollins / Elvin Jones
- 9/15 Cannonball Adderley / Oliver Lake
- 9/22 Coltrane Time
- 9/29 Bud Powell & Oscar Pettiford / Piano & Bass Today
- 10/6 Art of Jazz Song
- 10/13 Monk Mysterioso
- 10/20 Dizzy & Dizzier
- 10/27 Clifford Brown / Booker Little

11:00 PM

WORLDWIDE JAZZ

- 9/1 The Rob Van Kreefeld Quartet
- 9/8 Dirk Balthaus Trio / Duo Paulien & Hein
- 9/15 Benjamin Herman Quartet
- 9/22 Albers-Breuls-Janssen Quintet
- 9/29 Holland in Jazz
- 10/6 Maggi Olin Band
- 10/13 Stockholm Jazz Orchestra & Jim McNeely
- 10/20 Lars Sjosten Quartet
- 10/27 Beijbom / Kroner Big Band

SATURDAY

2:30PM

THISTLE & SHAMROCK

- 9/6 The Worlds of Celtic Music: Present and Future

- 9/13 Cordes de Bretagne
- 9/20 Bold (Catriona Macdonald)
- 9/27 The Captain's Collection
- 10/4 Dreamtime
- 10/11 The Singing Kettle
- 10/18 Percussion Excursion
- 10/25 Kate Rusby and John McCusker

6:00 PM

SELECTED SHORTS

- 9/6 "The Babysitter" by Jane Yolen, read by Isaiah Sheffer; "Notes from a Lady at a Dinner Party" by Bernard Malamud, read by David Margulies; "Recognition" by William Maxwell, read by Hector Elizondo; "Neighbors" by Julia Alvarez, read by Joanna Gleason
- 9/13 "Part of the Story" by Stephen Dobyns, read by Isaiah Sheffer; A selection from "The Best American Poetry 2000," read by Mia Dillon, Frank McCourt, Isaiah Sheffer, and Myra Lucretia Taylor
- 9/20 "Communist" by Richard Ford, read by William Hurt
- 9/27 "Game Six" by Roger Angell, read by the author; "The Green Fields of the Mind" by A. Bartlett Giamatti, read by the author; Excerpt from "The Glory of Their Times" by Lawrence S. Ritter, read by John Rubinstein; "Farewell, My Lovely Appetizer" by S.J. Perelman, read by James Naughton
- 10/4 "Here Is New York" (selection) by E.B. White, read by James Naughton
- 10/11 "The Appropriation of Cultures" by Percival Everett, read by Wren T. Brown; "The Way Love Works" by Mary Yukari Waters, read by Jacqueline Kim
- 10/18 "Coins" by Mona Simpson, read by Rachel Ticotin; "bit-o-honey" by Bernard Cooper, read by John O'Callaghan
- 10/25 "The Undeclared Major" by Will Weaver, read by Stephen Lang; "Sarah's Story" by Galina Vromen, read by Jane Curtin

7:00PM

SCHICKELE MIX

- 9/6 "Why are Conductors Paid?"
- 9/13 "Pendulum in White Tie & Tails"
- 9/20 "First Things First"
- 9/27 "Ah, Youth!"

Listen on the web: www.wjffradio.org

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>	Counterspin	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 Riseling</i>					
9 PM		Making Waves <i>Environment, Issues and Arts</i>					
10 PM	Fascinatin' Rhythm	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>		



WJFF
Community Radio

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

WJFF's Open House
From 1:30 to 3:30 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 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.

WJFF Celebrates Local Programs, *Continued from page 3*

Soul Spectrum with Liberty Green

When Liberty Green came to WJFF, she had hopes of doing a soul show, much like the ones she grew up with in the New York City area. But a few months later when she started *Soul Spectrum* Thursday nights at 10pm in October of 2001, she found that she was shy, and didn't talk much on air. She was also very curious about who would be listening late Thursday nights in October in this rural area. It didn't take her long to find out. Within a week after her first show, she received a letter from Pennsylvania's Waymart Correctional Facility signed John "old skool" Carter. Old Skool Carter, who is serving a sentence in Waymart, was already a WJFF listener, and he wrote the letter to thank Liberty for playing music from an era he felt had long been forgotten. She realized that despite her not saying much on air, the music was talking for her.

That letter from Old Skool Carter was followed by others from Waymart, all of them responding to the music Liberty played. She started asking for letters, and they came in; first from Waymart, then from other correctional facilities in our listening area. She now receives letters regularly from Woodbourne, Eastern, Walkill,

Fishkill, Mid Orange, Sullivan Annex, Otisville, and Waymart.

Liberty didn't know exactly how to respond to these letters, so she decided to answer on air. If you tune in just after 11pm you'll hear what this has become—"The Mail." She responds to every letter that she's received over the preceding week. There are her regulars—men who write every single week—as well as those that write occasionally, and some she's hearing from for the very first time. She'll regularly have 10-20 letters each week. Over the last two years since she began the show, she's received close to 2,000 letters! She now hears from men who are no longer in prison, but want to reach out to their friends back inside. Or she'll hear from wives and girlfriends telling her how much her show means to their loved ones. In addition to letters she's received hundreds of poems, artwork (including paintings, hand made cards, and woven paper chip bag art), and small gifts.

As a result of all the mail, Liberty has added segments to her show that she had never planned on. After receiving so much poetry, she starts her show with a segment called "Inside Out," which is a poem written by one

of her listeners. After "The Mail" comes another segment, a soul serial called "Silly Love Songs." This segment is written by Michael Wiggins, from the Waymart correctional facility. This came out of a letter Michael wrote to Liberty, which included a story called "Silly Love Songs." Liberty says, "The story was great, but what totally interested me was that he used soul song titles as dialogue!" She decided to read the letter on air in three installments. Listeners loved it, so Michael has kept the soul serial up, even including other regular listeners as characters in the story.

What started as a shy woman bringing soul music to the airwaves has become much more. Liberty Green has become an ambassador for the music, and for the words of so many of her listeners. *Soul Spectrum* is not only about the music, but now it's about what the music means to so many. Tune in Thursday nights from 10pm to 1am for a true look at Soul.

All Together Now with Larry Burrows

Happy first anniversary to Larry Burrows who took us on a whirlwind, engaging history of the last forty years of the Beatles—all in less than 12 months—on *All Together Now*, Sundays at noon. Larry's look at the Beatles' music, from before they were the Beatles all the way to band members' later projects was some remarkable programming!

Now that his look at the Beatles is finished, Larry has decided to continue on with the music of that era. We've recently heard shows on Neil Young, Bob Dylan, and Jimi Hendrix. And coming up in the next few months we'll hear more, including a two part look at King Crimson. Larry is a natural radio host who sounds like he's been at it a lot more than his quick one year (or more if you count his childhood imaginary radio show produced for his bunkmates at summer camp in the Catskills). Be sure to tune in Sundays at noon.

Speak Up!

Call the WJFF's Voice Box and be heard.

845-295-1040

Sullivan County Area
Farmers Market

Autumn Markets

Come by the Sullivan County
markets this fall for...

Pumpkins Indian Corn Winter Squash
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Lettuce Melons Pie & Quiche

(Not all products at all markets.
Holiday markets will happen weather permitting.)

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

Liberty

Every Friday, 3 - 7 pm on Darbee Lane. Beginning Sept. 19, the market will close at 6 pm. Last regular market day will be Oct. 10. Special Holiday markets on Nov. 21st & 28th.

Callicoon

Every Sunday, 11am-2pm at the Callicoon Creek Park. Special Holiday markets planned for Nov. 23rd & 30th.

Roscoe Every Sunday, 11am-2pm on Highland Avenue. The market will close for the season on Oct. 12.



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Member, Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce

**WJFF's Annual
Music Sale**

One of WJFF's most popular event is coming in November. Start gathering your old CDs, records, and stereo equipment to donate.

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.

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P.O. Box 797
Jeffersonville, NY 12748

WJFF Serves Up Radio to Go, *Continued from page 1*

WJFF, transportation and travel have been a deterrent in getting more voices from our far-flung listening area into the studio to participate in what we do. *Radio To Go* hopes to answer some of that problem. Not only can we take our portable studio on the road for street fairs, festivals and interviews, but we can also use *Radio To Go* as a training opportunity to teach more listeners and residents how to do community radio.

WJFF is one of a number of stations to receive one of these rural service initiative grants. Each grantee has their own project, each of which will be used as a pilot to gather information on what works best in serving rural areas. What we at WJFF learn from *Radio To Go* will be shared with other stations that may be interested in doing a similar thing. Likewise, we will learn the successes and failures of every other participating station's proj-

Contact us...
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Soundings is produced and published five times a year by Radio Catskill, a nonprofit corporation which owns and operates WJFF FM, an FCC-licensed public radio station, and is distributed to Radio Catskill members. To become a member, please see page 7. WJFF/Radio Catskill, at 90.5FM and 90.5FM on CVI, Cablevision Industries, and at 94.5 in Monticello, NY, has the distinction of being the only hydroelectrically powered radio station in the United States.




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