

# Arts

## Light on Lakeside

Provided by H.G. Fairfield Arts Center  
for the Environment Inc.

by C.C. Long

**O**n Tuesday night I went to a special evening of cocktails and conversation and the introduction of The H.G. Fairfield Arts Center for the Environment Inc. and meeting the people who are creating, participating and presenting an enlightening partnership that is proposed between them and the Town of Pawling to create an Arts Center at Lakeside.

The foundation first presented its interest last January to the Town Board. The H.G. Fairfield Arts Center for the Environment Inc. that was jokingly described by Kim

Blacklock, President of the organization as “the longest title in the history of non-profit companies” but she promised it wouldn’t be the only historic thing that the foundation will help create in the future. And I believed her. It is an inspired venture that brings art and community together to create a diverse atmosphere that gives back civically in areas that include embracing a community’s well-being in creative, economic and ecological ways.

The Arts Center is going forward gingerly to not create any problems that might arise and is focused in becoming a partner with the town not an outside entity. They are inspired to make the Lakeside in Pawling their center of operations and venues. All this with the ultimate respect for the community of

Pawling and the already on-going activities that are in place. The center and the lake are the perfect combination that fulfill the head of the HG Fairfield Art Center, Katherine Fairfield Freston’s mantra “See a need fill it...”

Ms. Freston, a graduate of Vassar and Captain in the Marines during the Korean War, a teacher, actress and philanthropist created the foundation to honor her grandfather H.G. Fairfield, who left MIT at the turn of the century and created the Fairfield and Ellis Insurance Company in Boston and Montreal, who was actively civic-minded his whole life and believed in “giving back to the community” one of the guiding lights of the organization.

The cocktail party was light hearted and informational not to mention entertaining as PJ Walsh a local stand-up comedian gave a snippet of his show that will be included in a far reaching extravaganza of 30 shows in 30 days. It will be the first venture of H.G. Fairfield with all the proceeds donated to local veterans (read accompanying article). The show,

“Courage Continues At Home” expresses the foundation’s vision and a quest to help where help is needed inspired by Ms. Freston’s and all the people who have given their time and efforts to bring this all to fruition.

If all goes well Pawling and the surrounding community will have a venue to bring them together. A light to inspire creativity and community service and in the end much needed financial relief to the community. It is a gracious endeavor that could benefit all for years to come. Something to be excited about and to be a part of and involved in, which H.G. Fairfield wants, as they welcome and appreciate any involvement from anybody who wants to give or can provide.

**C.C. LONG** is a writer and artist who has written columns in various International and national art magazines including *Flux Magazine*, *Art Exit Magazine*, *unChin Magazine*, *Whitehot Magazine* and *uppereast.com*. He is currently illustrating a children’s book series for Cheval Creative. He has been in over 50 one-man and group shows worldwide. His art can be seen and bought in print and poster format at [globalgallery.com](http://globalgallery.com).