

# DAILY FREEMAN

## Astor Services, Nobel laureate, former ambassador among winners of 2014 Val-Kill Medals



Top row, left to right: Lemah Gobowee, Geraldine Laybourn and Astor Services Executive Director James McGuirk. Bottom row, left to right: Diana Nyad, Katrina vanden Heuvel and William J. vanden Heuvel.

*By Freeman staff*

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1 COMMENT

HYDE PARK >> A distance swimmer, a Nobel laureate and the Rhinebeck-based Astor Services for Children are among the six recipients of the 2014 Eleanor Roosevelt Val-Kill Medal Awards announced Wednesday.

The awards recognize individuals and organizations that reflect the ideals of former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

The 2014 honorees are:

- Diana Nyad, a champion swimmer, journalist and humanitarian.
- Geraldine Laybourne, an advocate for women's leadership and serial entrepreneur in media and technology.
- Lehmah Gobowee, a Liberian peace activist, Nobel laureate and advocate for women and girls.
- Katrina vanden Heuvel, editor and publisher of The Nation.
- Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel who is founder and chairman emeritus of the Four Freedoms Park Conservancy Inc. and former U.S. ambassador to the European Office of the United Nations. William vanden Heuvel is Katrina vanden Heuvel's father.
- Astor Services for Children & Families.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill will present the awards Oct. 19 during a ceremony and luncheon at the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site in Hyde Park.

In addition to honoring the recipients, the awards ceremony will raise funds to support the Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership and Human Rights Legacy programs at the center.

Individual tickets are \$175. For tickets and sponsorship information, go to [www.ervk.org](http://www.ervk.org) or call (845) 229-5302.