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Development Update Page 3

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Talking Green at Galef Forum

Residents and officials share views on proposals to legalize marijuana, extend tax cap, combat climate change



Sandy Galef at the Feb. 2 forum Photo by L.S. Armstrong

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

ov. Andrew Cuomo's goals for 2019 include legalizing recreational use of marijuana, permanently capping annual property tax increases at 2 percent, and taking action against climate change.

When Sandy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly, hosted a forum on Saturday (Feb. 2) at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison, those issues drew the attention of constituents, as well, including Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley, Putnam County Legislator Nancy Montgomery and Philipstown Town Board Member Michael Leonard.

Cuomo outlined his agenda in his State of the State Address and draft budget. The \$102 billion he wants to spend in 2019-20, if the Legislature agrees, is 2 percent more than last year.

Marijuana

Six months after a state taskforce concluded that legalizing the recreational use of marijuana (medical use is already



What the Kids Say

 Almost everything in here is a kind of nature, like bamboo sticks and picture frames made out of bark from the woods.
We're trying to eliminate

all the plastic we've been using. We had, like, 20 plastic bins. We used to have a plastic calendar, but now we have a wooden one, out of repurposed material.

There's so much plastic at the beach. In the water, the garbage never goes away.

The Sustainable Classroom

Garrison teachers transform second grade

By Alison Rooney

I t *is* easy being green. That's the lesson that Marjorie Guigliano, a second-grade teacher at the Garrison School, has shared with her students, who have harnessed their own

natural energy to transform their class-

room into a largely plastic-free zone with live plants and other adjustments in the name of protecting natural resources.

Guigliano was hired at Garrison shortly before the 2017-18 school year began. She had to organize her classroom quickly, she recalls, and leaned heavily on her teacher's aide, Barbara D'Alessio ("Ms. D"). Together, they streamlined and converted some plastic objects into materials kinder to the planet. They also added outdoor gardening and a botany area along with recycling projects.

Early in the year, in partnership with a nonprofit called One More Generation, the 7- and 8-year-olds spent a week learning about plastics and recycling. "They need that background to make sense of it," Guigliano explains.

She says she emphasizes for the students "where goods and products come from" and hopes what they learn "will not be limited to the classroom, but extend to the cafeteria and promote waste reduc-

(Continued on Page 17)

Beacon's Lost Bridge

The city took the Tioronda apart. Can it put it back together?

By Jeff Simms

D ecommissioned by the state in 1985 and dismantled two decades later, Beacon's Tioronda Bridge, once a part of the National Register of Historic Places, has become a puzzle no one appears able to solve.

It hasn't always been that way. The one-lane bridge, built in 1872 by the Ohio Bridge Co., carried South Avenue traffic across Fishkill Creek for 134 years, noted



The dismantling of the historic Tioronda bridge in 2006

Frank Griggs Jr., an engineer hired by the City Council last year to provide an update on restoring the crossway. The bridge, he wrote in a report to the council, was built Photo by John Fasulo/BHS

with iron bowstring trusses and became a rare surviving example of a technology that flourished briefly before steel became the dominant component of U.S. bridges.

FIVE QUESTIONS: MARK BITTMAN

By Brian PJ Cronin

ark Bittman, who lives at Glynwood farm in Philipstown, spent more than 20 years writing about food for The New York Times. His latest cookbook, Dinner for Everyone, will be published on Feb. 12.

The cookbook presents 100 recipes three different ways: Simple, Vegan and Perfect for Company. Why did you organize it that way?

I did a book 20 years ago with chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten called Simple to Spectacular. We had the idea of a dumbeddown book of recipes based on my level of cooking skills that then got amped up three to five levels into something for someone with a sublime level of cooking skills. Perfect for Company is included because people love it when you cook for them, and it gives you a good feeling to do it. It's nice to do something fancy once in a while for others.

What else are you working on?

I started an email newsletter. We're up to 75,000 subscribers, which is not terrible. And I'm creating a podcast. We've already taped with Ted Danson, chef Carla Hall, a guy named Ethan Brown who runs Beyond Meat ... I'm sure he wouldn't call it a "fake meat company," but that's what I call it. And then we're going to get Moby for the pilot. It's easier to get people into the

studio than I thought it would be, but it's a question of editing and producing and getting funding. So it's going to take a little while longer. And there's also a website with my name on it that's going to launch soon, and a self-publishing venture.

Do you like being your own brand?

I left the Times because I had been there a long, long time and I felt like it was time to try different things. But the different things I'm trying are not going to be all that different! The nature of the work is still going to be publishing my stories. How different is that, really? Not that different.

You wrote about food for the *Times*' op-ed pages but have not been replaced. Does that

surprise you? It doesn't sur-

prise me. It does disappoint me. When I was at the opinion pages, my boss and my boss's boss all took

Mark Bittman

me and the subject perfectly seriously. I was never treated better in my life. But the paper has never taken food as seriously as it should. Eventually I'll be writing opinion pieces about food again but not for them. Although who knows? Stranger things have happened.

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If there is, it isn't represented in restaurants, that's for sure. One of the unfortunate things about the area is that there are not a lot of people taking advantage of local ingredients. From May to November, it's not that challenging, and even in the winter there's a lot of good stuff around. So I would say, the Hudson Valley cuisine is what people cook using local ingredients. We do that, and many other people do that. It's just not highly visible.



What's your dream job?

I'd own a 5-star resort and be a full-on outfitter for the rich and famous from around the world.



- J.D. Di Censo, Cold Spring

I'd be an actress in historical fiction films, like Keira Knightley.



~ Ivana Andreani, Putnam Valley

I'd be a bus driver on Italy's Amalfi Coast.



~ Tim Rasic, Garrison



248 Tioronda Ave.

Planning Board approval: 2014 (initial) Number of units: 64 rental units (reduced from 100 after a zoning law change), plus commercial space

Variances: None requested for latest design What's next: Developers have presented conceptual plans to the City Council and Planning Board. The latter's review begins Feb. 13.

249 Main St.

Planning Board approval: 2016

Number of units: 28 rental units on three floors over retail

Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed a 10-foot (rather than 25) rear setback, a reduction in landscaped area from 10 percent to 3 percent, and a side street parking area with no setback or landscaping. The Planning Board also has granted the developer a waiver for 25 of the 54 required parking spaces.

What's next: Construction is ongoing.



Edgewater

Planning Board approval: 2018 Number of units: 246 rental units Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed the developer to have more stories

per building, more units per building and less space between buildings.

What's next: Construction is expected to begin this spring.

7 Creek Dr.

Planning Board approval: 2016 Number of units: 46 rental units Variances: None

What's next: Rents range from \$1,900 to \$2,750 per month. The city says studio and one-bedrooms will soon be available through the workforce affordable housing program beginning at \$1,508 per month.

River Ridge

Planning Board approval: 2018 Number of units: 18 townhouses Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed the developers to have 19 feet (rather than 70) between buildings.

What's next: The developer has submitted a \$260,000 bond to the city that guarantees the completion of all public improvements at the site, known as Parcel L.

Booming Beacon

Five years after its first approval, the 248 Tioronda development project returns to the Planning Board next week (Feb. 13) seeking new approvals. Here are updates on the development, plus 12 other housing projects.

By Jeff Simms

West End Lofts

Planning Board approval: 2017 Number of units: 97 rental units Variances: None. The building, which will include 22 below-market-rate apartments and 50 artists' spaces, was granted tax exemptions by the city as a requirement of receiving \$4.5 million from the state Homes and Community Renewal agency. Last year the developers agreed to make voluntary payments to the city beginning at \$170,000 annually in lieu of property taxes. What's next: Construction is scheduled

to be completed by September. Eleven of the units are designed to accommodate tenants with physical disabilities or traumatic brain injuries.

23-28 Creek Dr.

Ferry Landing

Planning Board approval: Pending

What's next: The proposal to build six

four-story townhouses on the half-acre

"Welcome to Beacon" site across from the

Metro-North station was introduced to the Planning Board in mid-2018, and a public

hearing has been held. The project has been

listed as "adjourned" (pending) on the Plan-

ning Board's agenda each month since.

445 Main St.

the Beacon Theater

Variances: None

Planning Board approval: 2016

dio to a \$2,800 two-bedroom.

Number of units: 30 rental units above

What's next: So far at least three units

are available, ranging from a \$1,700 stu-

Number of units: 6 townhouses

Variances: None requested

at Beacon

Planning Board approval: Pending Number of units: 9 rental units plus 14,000 square feet of commercial space Variances: The developers say they plan to request variances to exceed the maximum height and stories allowed and to exceed the maximum area for two of the units.

What's next: The Planning Board was scheduled to begin reviewing the project in January but it was pulled from the agenda.



The View

The Lofts at Beacon

Planning Board approval: 2016 Number of units: 172 rental units Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed the developer to construct a new building with a height of 66 feet, rather than the 35 permitted.

What's next: The Planning Board in December approved the developer's request to remove commercial space from the project, which is also known as The Hip Lofts, and instead add 29 more units. About 80 units have been completed.

226 Main St.

Planning Board approval: 2017

Number of units: 8 rental units on three floors over retail

Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed a 10-foot (rather than 25) rear setback and waived on-street parking requirements. Dutchess County agreed to lease the developer eight spaces for overnight parking in a lot across the street. The developer will also add parking by re-striping the municipal parking lot next to 208 Main St., re-striping parallel spaces on Main Street and striping three parallel spaces on the east side of North Elm Street.

What's next: Construction is ongoing. The facade will be modeled after the Holland Hotel, which stood across the street a century ago.

Planning Board approval: 2016 Number of units: 42 condos

Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed the developer a zero, rather than 15-foot, stepback for an elevator shaft. What's next: An online listing for the development, at 30 Beekman St., shows no available units, although two condos will soon be offered for sale through the city's workforce affordable housing program for \$192,760 and \$275,462.

344 Main St.

Planning Board approval: 2016 Number of units: 24 rental units on three floors over retail

Variances: The Zoning Board of Appeals allowed the developer to have no rear yard setback, rather than the normal 25 feet, and to have less than 2 percent landscaping where 10 percent is required.

What's next: The city says one- and twobedrooms will soon be available for the workforce affordable housing program, with rents starting at \$1,508 per month. A number of two-bedroom market-rate apartments are available with rents starting at \$2,500.



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State Sen. Sue Serino has decided that parroting inflammatory lies of the anti-abortion movement is more important than representing the needs of women in her district. As noted in "How They Voted On Abortion Rights, Guns" (Feb. 1), the senator voted "no" on the Reproductive Health Act. Her rationale for doing so was disturbing.

The claim by the senator that removing abortion from the criminal code puts women in danger is false and disingenuous. In fact, abortion is healthcare and should be a woman's decision in consultation with her healthcare provider, not her lawyer or a police officer.

Further, we should continue to charge people who assault pregnant women with assault. The Reproductive Health Act did not change existing laws that punish violence against pregnant women.

Maintaining a criminal charge of abortion would only further stigmatize this safe, common, lifesaving procedure. I am so disappointed in Sen. Serino's vote and her decision to propagate false information.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Kim Chirls, Cold Spring Chirls is board chair of the National Institute for Reproductive Health Action Fund.

Bottleneck

It is incredible that the New York State Department of Transportation has not addressed the bottleneck on Route 9D approaching the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge.

Increasingly, 9D is gridlocked by westbound commuters waiting to enter the bridge. During morning and evening rush hours, northbound traffic on 9D is commonly backed up to Verplanck Avenue. In the evening, especially after a train ar-



Cell Tower Update

Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill said the Village Board has scheduled a joint session with the Philipstown Town Board for Feb. 13 to discuss lawsuits filed against both municipalities after they rejected applications from Homeland Towers and Verizon to build cell towers ("Nelsonville in Settlement Talks Over Cell Tower," Feb. 1).

In a phone interview on Friday (Feb. 1), O'Neill said that the village attorney must review a proposed agreement with the Open Space Institute to place a conservation easement on a 4-acre, village-owned parcel on Secor Street that had been proposed but withdrawn as a site for a cell tower.

O'Neill described the parcel as "an asset to the village" that could be sold but said the board does not foresee doing that, even to raise money to cover the costs of defending the lawsuit. "There's no intent to sell," the mayor said. "There's no intent to do anything" with the parcel.

rives, traffic is sometimes backed up to Main Street in Beacon and beyond.

Only one of the three northbound lanes of 9D turns onto the bridge. I propose converting the middle northbound lane into a second left-turn-only lane feeding traffic onto the bridge. This would be similar to the existing two lanes that lead onto the ramp to the bridge on the Newburgh side.

I have spoken to local Department of Transportation officials about the problem. Additionally, I expressed my displeasure with the situation last week to the Department of Transportation commissioner at a joint legislative budget hearing of the Transportation Committee.

As more and more residents commute from the Metro-North station in Beacon, it is critical that this situation be addressed.

Jonathan Jacobson, Albany Jacobson represents the 104th district. which includes Beacon and Newburgh, in the state Assemblu.

Talking Green (from Page 1)

legal) would lead to more good than harm, the governor asked the Legislature to drop the ban on marijuana use by adults ages 21 and older and establish state supervision of marijuana production, testing, labeling, distribution, licensing and sales.

If taxed, legal pot could raise some \$300 million for the state annually, according to the governor. Cuomo's initiative allow large cities and counties to "opt out" if they don't want to legalize pot and would automatically seal criminal records of past marijuana-related offenses.

Ten states and Washington, D.C., have legalized recreational marijuana, and polls of New York residents find a majority favor it. Legislators in Connecticut and New Jersey also are considering legalization.

At the Feb. 2 forum, Galef observed that "all I seem to be talking about is marijuana" these days. It didn't take much prompting to get audience members to share their views.

Advocates said that legalizing marijuana could ensure product safety, provide revenue for the state, and assist growers who find banks leery of marijuana-related clients, even those producing medical marijuana.

Others expressed concern about the effect on the homeless and mentally ill and on public safety.

"If we're going to treat marijuana like alcohol, have we developed the [related] law, like we have with alcohol?" Montgomery wondered. She noted that in Washington state, after marijuana legalization, "the incidence of aggressive crime increased by 17 percent. What is the State of New York doing to address that?"

The figure is the rate of increase in aggravated assaults reported in Washington from 2013 to 2017. In a new book, Tell Your Children: The Truth About Marijuana, Mental Illness and Violence, Alex Berenson, who lives in Philipstown, argues the increase can be attributed to marijuana use.

Langley predicted that if marijuana becomes legal, "you're going to see an increase in fatal automobile accidents." He cited statistics from Colorado, which legalized the sale of recreational marijuana in 2012 and from 2013 to 2016 saw a 145 percent increase in drivers involved in fatal traffic accidents who tested positive for marijuana.

Talking Green (from Page 4)

That statistic comes from a Denver Post analysis of federal data that found the number of drivers involved in fatal crashes who tested positive for marijuana grew from 47 in 2013 to 115 in 2016. The newspaper noted that, unlike alcohol, the presence of marijuana in a driver's blood doesn't mean he or she was impaired, since pot can show up weeks later in toxicology reports.

When Galef asked Langley if officers can measure the presence of marijuana in drivers (as they do with alcohol), the sheriff replied that "there is a way," but it requires rigorous, state-funded training.

He added that legalization would force the retirement of dogs that are trained to locate marijuana during searches, including two owned by his department. The state Legislature can fund alternatives for the New York State Police, he said, but will legislators "provide funding to all the other law enforcement agencies that are going to lose these valuable canines because of this law going through?"

He explained that because K-9s are trained to respond to the scents of multiple drugs, and officers cannot tell which scent alerted the dog, a judge could potentially rule that officers had no probable cause for a search that turns up legal pot but also illegal narcotics such as fentanyl. "That arrest is out the window," he said. "We got that fentanyl off the street, but the bad guy gets to go loose."

Cuomo's proposal states that with legalization, state agencies would implement a driving-while-impaired campaign, fund research on roadside testing for impairment, and provide training for law enforcement to identify drivers impaired by drugs.

Cuomo "is really, really pushing" for legalization, Galef said. "This is the time, if you have any feelings, to say 'no' " by con-



WHAT IT MIGHT LOOK LIKE - A manager at Cultivate, a dispensary near Boston that began selling marijuana in November after Massachusetts legalized its sale to anyone age 21 and older Photo by Robin Lubbock/WBUR

tacting legislators and the governor.

Taxes

Every few years, the state Legislature must re-approve the 2 percent cap on annual property tax increases by municipalities, school and fire districts and other entities. Cuomo proposed that the Legislature make the cap permanent, estimating that over six years it has saved the average property owner \$3,200.

But Leonard said the cap hurts small towns. Larger municipalities can usually find something to trim, he said. But in smaller jurisdictions, when the costs of state-mandated programs increase by 4 to 6 percent, "it is very difficult" to cut.

"It's not a fair playing field," he said. Leonard advocated exempting towns from the 2 percent limit.

In response to a question, Galef said

using state income taxes to fund such programs as public education, and thus reduce reliance on property taxes, "is worthy of consideration" but not being discussed in Albany. She noted that the change would probably mean less control for certain school districts, and, under the likely formula, give them less money from income taxes than they now collect in property taxes.

Environment

The governor's budget calls for creation of a \$10 billion Green Future Fund to support open-space conservation and projects involving renewable energy, non-polluting forms of transportation, infrastructure efforts and climate-change resiliency.

The proposal includes \$2.5 billion, disbursed over five years, for safe drinking water and wastewater management, adding to \$2.5 billion authorized in 2017.

Also under his budget, the Department of Environmental Conservation would receive \$1.4 billion, a 7 percent increase, while funding for the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation would be \$391 million, up 6 percent. The allocation for the Hudson Valley Greenway program would more than double to \$45 million.

Cuomo likewise advocates development of offshore wind energy, a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to fight climate change, and less reliance on polluting energy forms overall.

Attendees at Galef's forum supported such endeavors but also suggested tax incentives for homeowners going green, since solar systems, energy-efficient windows and other upgrades often are expensive and, in some cases, need parts replaced regularly or are only built to last about 15 years.

Galef promised to do what she can to help. Cuomo also said he wants to ban singleuse plastic bags. Dutchess County legislators voted on Dec. 6 to ban them there beginning in 2020.

"If there isn't a law, people don't change as fast," Galef commented. "If there's a law, they will do it."



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File photo

More New State Laws

Plus, how state lawmakers voted

By Chip Rowe

S andy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly, shared a list of state laws that take effect this month, which are described in more detail below.

Frank Skartados, who represented Beacon in the Assembly until his death in April, voted on two of the bills, and Jonathan Jacobson, who succeeded him, voted on one. The votes of Galef, Jacobson and state Sen. Sue Serino, whose district includes the Highlands, are noted when the results were not unanimous.

- Requires state agencies, when dealing with a client or customer, to ask if he or she has a family member who is a veteran. This information will be used only to inform the veteran and/or family members of assistance and benefits available through the state Division of Veterans' Affairs. (Feb. 3) | Passed Senate 60-0 | Passed Assembly 146-0
- Enacts the Living Donor Protection Act, which prohibits discrimination by life,

accident or health insurers based on a person's status as a living organ or tissue donor. It also authorizes the use of paid family leave to provide care during preparation and recovery from transplant surgery when a person donates an organ or tissue. (Feb. 3) | Passed Senate 62-0 | Passed Assembly 143-0

- · Establishes a working group to review best practices for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases. It will include the commissioners of the Department of Health, Office of Mental Health, and Environmental Conservation, as well as the superintendent of Financial Services. In addition, the governor will appoint six members and leaders in the Senate and Assembly will appoint eight. The group will include an infectious disease specialist, general practitioner, mental health practitioner, entomologist, epidemiologist, a representative of health insurance providers and a representative of a tickborne disease advocacy organization. (Feb. 3) | Passed Senate 62-0 (sponsored by Serino) | Passed Assembly 143-0
- Authorizes nurse practitioners to witness health care proxies and allows them to determine the competency of a patient. (Feb. 3) | Passed Senate 57-4 (Serino voted yes) | Passed Assembly 133-5 (Galef voted yes)
- Requires the installation of Lyme and tick-borne disease warning signs at all state parks, including at trailheads and campgrounds. (Feb. 3) | Passed Senate

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Gov. Andrew Cuomo signs a bill into law.

61-0 (sponsored by Serino) | Passed Assembly 133-10 (Galef voted yes)

- Allows victims of domestic violence to be reimbursed by the state Office of Victim Services for shelter costs and crimescene cleanup. (Feb. 18) | Passed Senate 61-0 | Passed Assembly 138-0
- Adds landscape architecture services to the list of professional services procured through a qualifications-based selection process, rather than one based strictly on cost. (Feb. 19) | Passed Senate 59-0 | Passed Assembly 128-0
- Requires insurers and health plans to submit data to the state to measure compliance with laws that require that claims for mental health and substance abuse treatment are handled in the same way as physical health claims. An attorney general investigation found that some insurers rejected mental health and substance abuse claims at higher rates than physical injury claims, or demanded higher co-pays. (Feb. 20) | Passed Senate 60-0 | Passed Assembly 137-1 (Galef voted yes)
- Establishes an official but optional Disabilities Identification Card for adults and

parents of children with disabilities such as autism to provide information to first responders and others. (Feb. 20) | Passed Senate 62-0 | Passed Assembly 137-0

- Creates a Sept. 11, 2001, remembrance license plate. A portion of the fees will fund college scholarships for family members of Sept. 11 victims. (Feb. 24) | Passed Senate 62-0 | Passed Assembly 128-0
- Enacts the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, which prohibits discrimination based on gender identity or expression. It also adds gender identity or expression to the list of offenses that qualify as hate crimes. The law will prohibit discrimination in employment, places of public accommodation, housing, real estate sales, volunteer fire department membership and public schools. (Feb. 26) | Passed Senate 42-19 (Serino voted no) | Passed Assembly 105-43 (Galef and Jacobson voted yes)
- Allows veterans to show proof of a serviceconnected disability only when initially applying for a \$5 deer-hunting license and not for renewals. | Passed Senate 61-1 (Serino voted yes) | Passed Assembly 135-0



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U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney controlled the white board while speaking to students at Haldane High School on Feb. 4. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Maloney Leads Haldane Government Class

Students ask about social media, democracy, reforms

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

hen Haldane government students filed into their classroom on Monday (Feb. 4), they were greeted by a new teacher.

OK, he wasn't all that new. Both of his daughters go to the Cold Spring high school, and like many parents he attends Haldane events or is spotted around the village, since his family lives just up the hill.

Nonetheless, it isn't every day that a member of Congress and avowed public affairs wonk takes command of the white board. So Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney packed

the classroom. "I'm excited about what's happen-

ing with young people in our country," he said at the offset, citing the #MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements, guncontrol activism after the 2018 Parkland school shooting in Florida, and young people's involvement in elections, which, he said, helped produce the most diverse Congress in history, with the most female legislators ever.

But he urged students not to be complacent, because "there's a lot of things we need to do better in this country, and it's on people like you" to help.

Then for some 40 minutes, he took questions on a spate of topics:

Social media

Maloney termed social media "a mixed bag," adding that "I worry about it in politics." One problem, he said, is that "it's anonymous; it's often unreliable; it can be used to distort or spread disinformation and confusion.

"Democracy depends on truth, on being able to know what's true and what's not," he said. "One of the biggest challenges your generation is going to have to handle is: 'How do you know what you know?' "

He said that immediately after his recent appointment to the powerful House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, his social media accounts "started to get attacked by bots," which he attributes in part to foreign governments "trying to sow disruption." After TV interviews, he said, he received other threats, including statements that "You should be killed. Your whole family should be dragged out and shot.' This is what social media has done," he said.

Asked if he gets information from Twitter about President Donald Trump's positions, he replied: "Of course. Some of the president's tweets are weird. What's very unusual and very unnerving is that the president's own senior advisers often find out" about policy changes from Trump tweets.

Intelligence Committee

Generally garrulous and animated, Maloney was more subdued when discussing the Intelligence Committee, where he encounters what he called an "interesting and complicated and nerve-wracking set of stuff sometimes." The committee is looking into Russian interference in the 2016 election separately from the similar investigation led by Robert Mueller, the special counsel. As both probes continue, "let's just get the facts. Let's find out what happened, and let's keep it fair," he urged.

The congressman also foresees grave new threats from cyber terrorists. "Some of us believe we are at risk of a cyber 9/11," he said. The world's leading cyber players are the U.S., Israel and "four countries not our friends: China, Russia, North Korea and Iran," who have "an asymmetrical opportunity to create enormous problems for us in the way they could never do with conventional military," he warned. "We have to stay ahead and we have to stay smart."

Environment

Maloney said the U.S. is "way behind" in addressing climate change. He endorsed carbon pricing, to "make the price reflect the true cost of the products" that exacerbate global warming.

With carbon pricing, he said, alter-(Continued on Page 18)

Police Still Looking for Killer's Brother

Erick Grigoroff wanted for alleged assault

Grigoroff is the twin brother of Anthony Grigoroff, who was found guilty

in 2010, and again after a retrial in 2017,

of killing Garrison Garage owner John

Marcinak. Erick Grigoroff was present

during the killing, which according to trial testimony took place when Mar-

cinak walked in on the brothers and

another man burglarizing his Route 9

The state police issued an alert this

week that Grigoroff is still being pur-

sued on a warrant for a 2017 incident

in which he allegedly assaulted several

Police described Grigoroff as 5-foot-6,

weighing 150 pounds with black hair and

hazel eyes. Anyone with information re-

garding his whereabouts, or who sees Grig-

oroff, should contact the state police at 914-

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ew York State Police investigators are attempting to locate Erick Grigoroff, 28, a Peekskill man they say should be considered "armed and dangerous"



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HOULIHAN LAWRENCE



HUDSON RIVER VIEWS Unique Townhouse. Two-fireplaces, upper/lower porch overlooking Hudson River. True quality. WEB# POl442623 | Cold Spring | \$1,125,000



GREAT ESCAPE Two-fireplaces, walls of glass. Master suite with spa tub. Deck. On 2.6 private acres. WEB# POI474538 | Garrison | \$725,000



CRAFTSMAN COLONIAL Thoughtfully designed home offers nine-foot ceilings, two-story foyer and butler's pantry. WEB# POI5I0476 | Garrison | \$667,000



A VILLAGE COUNTRY SETTING Wendalls Way. Three bedrooms, kitchen, dining/ living room with open floor plan. Fireplace. WEB# POI518898 | Cold Spring | \$565,000



WHY PAY RENT Two-family home in the Village. Two-bedrooms in each. First floor with private entrance. WEB# POI520431 | Cold Spring | \$369,000

COLD SPRING BROKERAGE 845.265.5500 HOULIHANLAWRENCE.COM

Tioronda Bridge (from Page 1)

Robert Murphy, then president of the Beacon Historical Society, continued the story in a blog post last year, noting that in 1976, the state's deputy commissioner for historic preservation, Julia Stokes, helped get it nominated for the federal Historic Register. By 1986, Murphy noted, the state had considered widening the bridge to two lanes and adding a concrete deck, but through Stokes' efforts, the plan to modernize the bridge was put on hold.

The story since then has more ups and downs than a game of Ping-Pong. With the bridge closed to traffic, two Dutchess County rehabilitation programs came and went, recalled Beacon Mayor Randy Casale, but funding was never secured. In one instance, the City Council argued that the bridge should be reopened for pedestrians, but with funding only available for a vehicular rebuild, no consensus was reached.

"Should it be historical [for pedestrians], or should it be a little more modern [for vehicles]," asked City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero. "That's what started the whole debate."

In 2006, the city dismantled the bridge and piled the trusses against a fence near the Beacon transfer station, where they deteriorated for years and were overgrown by brush. Meanwhile, the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation advised the city that the bridge had lost its historical significance and would be removed from the National Register.

Today all that remains at the original site are two split-stone abutments and two piers, portions of which were modified when sewer and water utilities crossing Fishkill Creek were rehabilitated. Fencing restricts access.

In 2017, then-Assemblyman Frank Skartados secured \$500,000 in funding to rebuild the bridge with a walkway and a single lane of low-speed vehicular traffic. With a plan, that funding is still available, Ruggiero said, and the Planning Board will take another stab at solving the puzzle at its meeting on Feb. 13.

City Council Member Lee Kyriacou says he believes the one- versus two-lane debate ended with Skartados' grant, which came from the state Department of Transportation. "Once funding was made available [for a single lane], the essence of the argument for two lanes went away," he said.

However, because the bridge lies within the city's historic district, which has stricter design guidelines, any rehab would need to be carefully measured. Adequate emergency access must be considered, as well. "We have a moral obligation to do something more than the minimum" within the city's zoning laws, Kyriacou said.

In his report, the consultant Griggs determined that one and maybe two of the six bowstring trusses could be restored for display purposes. He suggested that one



The Tioronda Bridge in 2017

File photo by J. Simms

arch be placed near the site with a sign explaining the significance of the bridge.

Casale, who has witnessed the topsyturvy story as a highway superintendent, council member and now as mayor, said he remains flexible regarding the project - to a degree.

"I'm willing to be open-minded to make it work for everybody," he said, "but not to have a vehicular bridge there is ridiculous."



A 19th-century drawing of the bridge BHS



The Calendar



Pamela Manché Pearce Photo provided

The Language of Loss

Poems by former Garrison resident address power of grief

Widow, Falling

By Pamela Manché Pearce

- Tell me how to live this beautiful life. Tell me now. Help me to make bracelets from tin cans Christmas wrap from toilet paper And potatoes cut into stars. A gourmet meal from sautéed dice of pillowcase and hot rollers en brochette
- to change my watch to an elastic bandage
- to drive safely when I am blind
- to know when I collapse, how to fall

to read the eyes of strangers when they ask me for change to get home

to ask strangers for change so I can get home, in their eves, and mine

to know when I am home and how to act when I am there.

Help me when I collapse.

By Alison Rooney

rief is one of life's most powerful experiences, its potency universal but also unique to each person who goes through it. Pamela Manché Pearce dives in headfirst in her chapbook, *Widowland*, recently published by London's Green Bottle Press (greenbottlepress.com).

Manché Pearce lived in Garrison for more than 20 years with her husband, Barre Littel, until his death a decade ago, after which she returned to New York City.

Widowland doesn't approach the subject in padded slippers but careens right up to the complexity of responses not only to the death of a loved one but during the caregiving and the aftermath, when you are uncoupled.

"When someone dies in your arms, in one moment there are two people in the room, then only one," Manché Pearce says.

She also tackles the physical details, including the body being removed from the house — in her case a beloved house on Lower Station Road, which she couldn't endure living in after Littel's passing from cancer after a 10-month illness.

"I was living in Garrison, feeling isolated, after my hus-

(Continued from Page 14)

Completing the Circle

Beacon space caters to connections

By Alison Rooney

S ince Wyld Womyn opened its doors in May on Fishkill Road in Beacon, its two owners say women often have peered in the windows at the space filled with couches and soft lighting, wondering what it's all about.

Alyia Cutler, one of the owners, says the space is designed for "women to experience exploring their identity" and "try new things that exist in their community. One needs other people to build a community that's like-minded, cut from the same cloth, and is not forged just by having children in the same school or having moved to Beacon from Brooklyn. This is a place to meet people in, to have deep conversations with."

Those conversations take place during the workshops, circles, classes and other activities organized by Cutler and Meghan Conway, who worked as doula partners before opening the space, tucked away behind the Beacon Pantry. Both grew up nearby: Cutler in Mahopac and Conway in Poughkeepsie.

"We live here, our families are here,"

says Conway. "We're here for our community, and are in support of them, and hopefully they'll support us."

Their doula work led to healing circles. As those grew in popularity, the women realized they needed their own place. "We convinced ourselves that because we knew there was a need, it was a shoe-in!" says Cutler, to which Conway adds, "If you have entrepreneurial blood in you, you act on it."

"There's something really powerful about sitting in a space together" says Cutler. "Tradition was, when women gave birth, they were always surrounded by other women."

"It used to be that neighbors would come and tend," adds Conway. "We've lost that. The healing circles bring a sense of collective ritual."

"The point of the space is to take away the pretense and to make people feel safe," says Cutler. "It's not about showing off how spiritual you are. It's about connecting with people, feeling safe, and healing."

Though each circle plays out differently, the typical pattern is to begin with a focus on what's in the room. "We come up with



Alyia Cutler and Meghan Conway at Wyld Womyn

Photo by Alicia King

prompts to structure the evening," Conway explains. "You can purge, answer, talk it out or not share. We tie in a practical thing people can do afterward, maybe a mantra, chanting, weaving or another craft, something which can be incorporated into every day."

While many of their clients come to them through their doula services and

parenting classes, they say their walk-in clients have been older than expected. "Some of them have come in, said 'Great space, but I'm done having babies. I'm interested in how to have better sex that feels good,'" says Cutler. "Because of them, we realized we needed to make a lube, so we worked with [Beacon-based manufac-(Continued from Page 14)

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org) For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.



COMMUNITY

SAT 9 Eagle Fest GARRISON

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638 teatown.org/events/eaglefest

Naturalists from the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society and Constitution Marsh Audubon Center will help visitors spot eagles on the river. *Free*

SAT 9 Valentine Pet Pictures MAHOPAC

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Mahopac Feed Barn 161 Route 6 | puthumane.org

Have your pet photographed in Valentine's Day attire to benefit the Putnam Humane Society. *Cost: \$20 donation*

SAT 9 Gardening in the Age of

Climate Change GARRISON 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library

472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Horticulturist Kim Eierman will explain how to adapt to climate change's effects and create habitat for pollinators and wildlife. Sponsored by the Philipstown Garden Club and Putnam Highlands Audubon Society. *Free*

SAT 9 Drawdown Dinner NELSONVILLE

7 p.m. Create Community 11 Peekskill Road | 845-264-9565 drawdowndinner.bpt.me

Drawdown, a book edited by Paul Hawken, offers 100 solutions to reduce the greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. This potluck will feature stories, songs and other performances based on one of the solutions. Bring a dish to share that is vegan or less than .25 pounds of CO₂ emissions per serving (see foodemissions.com/ foodemissions/Calculator.aspx). Free

SUN 10 Peace Project 2019

BEACON Noon – 2 p.m. A Little Beacon Space 291 Main St. | alittlebeaconblog.com

Fold origami cranes to be strung together for display at local businesses to promote peace, equality and love.

SUN 10 Floats for Felines BEACON

- 1 4 p.m. Beacon Bath and Bubble 458 Main St. | 845-440-6782
- During this fundraiser for Mid-Hudson Animal Aid, make a float with ice cream and one of more than 70 brands of soda pop. Litter and cat food donations will also be accepted.

SUN 10 Snirit

Spirit of the Hudson Gala GARRISON

3 p.m. The Garrison | 2015 Route 9 845-265-8080 | clearwater.org

Adam Green, founder and executive director of Rocking the Boat, and John Mylod, the retired executive director of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, will be honored at this fourth annual benefit for environmental advocacy and education on the Hudson River. Long Steel Nail will provide music. *Cost: \$250*

TUES 12 Haldane Basketball Benefit

COLD SPRING 3:15 p.m. Haldane Gym 15 Craigside Drive | haldane.eventscff.org

Three boys' games, scheduled for Jan. 19 but postponed due to weather, will be played in succession as part of a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The modified team will play Garrison at 3:15 p.m., the junior varsity will take on Blind Brook at 4:45 p.m. and the varsity will host Blind Brook at 6:30 p.m.

THURS 14 Harlem Wizards BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets

The basketball show team, created in Ohio in 1962 by a promoter named Howie Davis, will perform dribbling, passing and shooting tricks and aerodynamic dunking feats as they take on the Beacon Heartbreakers, a team made up of district faculty and staff. The proceeds will benefit Rombout Middle School and the Beacon High School Class of 2019. Reserved and courtside seats are available online only. *Cost: \$12* (*\$15 door*), students \$10 (\$12 door), children under 3 admitted free



FRI 15 Zero to Go Dance Party BEACON

8 – 11 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery 2 Churchill St. | 845-202-2651 zerotogo.org

Help raise funds to purchase a new vehicle for the nonprofit. *Cost: \$17*

SAT 16 MLK Jr. Day Breakfast and Parade BEACON

8 a.m. Springfield Baptist Church 8 Mattie Cooper Square | 845-831-4093

Following a free community breakfast at 8 a.m. and a ceremony at 9:30 a.m., the annual singing parade and civil rights march will begin outside the church. The event was re-scheduled from Jan. 21 due to weather.

SUN 17 Korean

Korean Lotus Lantern-Making Class

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org Make and take home your own

lantern while learning about Korean culture and history. Registration required. *Cost: \$5*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 9 Community Valentine Event

BEACON

Noon – 4 p.m. Colorant 146 Main St. | newyorktextilelab.com Join Textile Lab at Colorant to create five Valentine's Day

cards using thickened cochineal dye, handmade paper and textile scraps. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 16

Winter Weekend NEW WINDSOR

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Storm King Art Center 1 Museum Road | 845-534-3115 stormking.org

Explore the outdoor art installations in a winter landscape. Also SUN 17. Cost: \$18 (\$15 seniors, \$8 students, ages 4 and younger and members free)

SAT 16

Ocarina GARRISON

2 p.m. Garrison Art Center 23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960 garrisonartcenter.org

The ocarina is an ancient type of vessel flute that was typically fashioned from clay. Renee Ivanoff will instruct participants on how to trap air to shape a flute and create sound. Registration required. Open to adults and children ages 10 and older. *Cost: \$50 plus \$5 materials*

SAT 16

Where is the Madness You Promised Me PEEKSKILL

5 – 7 p.m. Hudson Valley MOCA 1701 Main St. | 914-788-0100 hudsonvalleymoca.org

This exhibition will feature dystopian landscapes from the collection of Marc and Livia Straus that reflect anxiety over the future. The opening reception is free with museum admission. *Cost:* \$10 (\$5 seniors, students, children ages 8 and older)



SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 9 Zachary Skinner: Troubled Waters

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St. 845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Skinner uses photography and painting to explore climate change. "In my work I attempt to represent human encounters with a damaged post-industrial landscape," he says. A group show called *Tendencies* will be on display in the main gallery.

SAT 9 Group Show: Cycles BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Catalyst Gallery 137 Main St. | 845-204-3844 catalystgallery.com

This show, organized by the Blood Art Archive, will feature works that explore the complexities of menstruation. It continues through Feb. 18. A women-only space called a Red Tent will be held on SUN 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. (\$10).

SAT 9 [In]Action Figures 7 BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery 163 Main St. | 212-255-2505 shop.cluttermagazine.com

SAT 9 In The Garden of Forking Paths

BEACON 6 – 9 p.m. Mother Gallery 18 W. Main St. | 845-236-6039

mothergallery.art

In paintings and sculpture, Brigida Caramagna, Colin Hunt and Karsten Krejcarek explore non-linear time, amorphous reality and permeable dimensions.

SAT 9

Richard Bruce: New Paradigms

6 – 9 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass 162 Main St. | 845-440-0068 hudsonbeachglass.com

"My paintings have been heavily influenced by the Abstract Expressionist painters," says Bruce, a graduate of the School of Visual Arts who uses acrylic on wood. While his work still has abstract elements, "my paintings now are much more informed by the area in which I live and the ethereal beauty of the Hudson Valley."

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 9 **Black Beauty COLD SPRING**

3 p.m. Topfield Equestrian Center 115 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-3409 bit.ly/topfield-beauty

Meet the center's own black beauty, Onyx, and enjoy a screening of a 1994 film adaptation of Anna Sewell's 1877 book. Rated G. Children and teens must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: \$10 donation

SAT 9 **The Lego Movie** GARRISON

7 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive | 845-424-4618 philipstownrecreation.com

In this hit 2014 animated film, an ordinary Lego construction worker must stop a tyrant from controlling the universe. Rated PG. Open to Philipstown middle-school students. Free

SUN 10

Salamander Migration CORNWALL

10 a.m. Wildlife Education Center 25 Boulevard | 845-534-7781 hhnm.org

On rainy nights in late winter, salamanders emerge from hibernation. Meet some and learn how to volunteer as a citizen scientist with the state Department of Environmental Conservation to help them safely cross roads.

MON 11

Re-Pete! Pete Seeger's Music and Legacy BEACON

6:15 p.m. Beacon Music Factory 333 Fishkill Ave. | 845-765-0472 beaconmusicfactory.com

In this 12-week program. children ages 7 and older can learn about Pete's songs and his commitment to activism. Cost: \$150

THURS 14 The Love Bug GARRISON

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Watch as a family or drop the kids (ages 5 and older) for a screening of the 1968 Disney classic featuring Herbie. Based on a 1963 book, Car, Boy, Girl by Gordon Buford, it stars Dean Jones, Michele Lee and Buddy Hackett



Winter on the Farm WAPPINGERS FALLS

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Stony Kill Farm 79 Farmstead Lane | 845-831-3800 stonykill.org

Enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 10 a.m. to noon, along with, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., horse-drawn sleigh

rides, barn tours, maple-tapping demonstrations, snowshoeing and crafts. The snow date is Feb. 23. Cost: \$10 (\$5 children)

SAT 16 Pizza & Paint Party COLD SPRING

6 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

Middle and high school students are invited to create a masterpiece with guidance from Tania Dirks. Free

SUN 17 Operation Opera

BEACON 3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-765-3012 howlandmusic.org

As part of its Classics for Kids series, the Met Chorus Artists will share the magic of opera. Cost \$10 (children free)

MUSIC

SAT 9 Jazz Vespers with René **Bailey**

COLD SPRING

5:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 10 Academy St. | 845-265-3220 presbychurchcoldspring.org

This program, rescheduled from January, will honor the legacy and spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with vocalist Bailey and other jazz musicians. A reception will follow. Free



SAT 9 **Chaotica II**

BEACON 8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-765-3012 howlandculturalcenter.org

Ben Neill, Carl Van Brunt, Amarildo Costa and Mimi Goese will create an immersive experience of music and animation. Cost: \$10 (\$15 door)

SAT 9 **Brian Charette Trio** BEACON

9 p.m. Ouinn's 330 Main St. | 845-202-7447 facebook.com/quinnsbeacon

The organist and pianist, who has played with Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon, Chaka Khan, Cyndi Lauper and others, will perform modern jazz with Jay Azzolina on guitar and Jordan Young on drums. Cost: \$10 donation

The Highlands Current

SAT 9 The Rabbbits Album **Release Party BEACON**

10 p.m. Draught Industries | 394 Main St. 845-440-8682 | therabbbits.com

The Beacon group, led by pop artist Ron English and Joe Johnson, will celebrate the release of its album, Revolution, which is the second part after Delusionville in 2017 of a rock opera that its creators describe as a "post-factual Animal Farm meets Aesop's Fables on LSD."

SUN 10 Doo Wop Brunch BEACON

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Elks Lodge 900 Wolcott Ave. | 914-474-1735 facebook.com/groups/beaconelks1493

Times Square will perform at this benefit for Elks charities. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 members)*

WED 13

Noam Pikelny and Stuart Duncan

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Pikelny, a founding member of Punch Brothers, was awarded the inaugural Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass in 2010 and named the International Bluegrass Music Association's banjo player of the year in 2014 and 2017. He will perform with multi-instrumentalist Stuart Duncan. Cost: \$27.50 (\$32.50 door)

FRI 15

Spyro Gyra BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Formed in Buffalo in 1974, the band's music is a mix of jazz, R&B, funk and pop. (Its name comes from Spirogyra, a genus of green algae which a band member had learned about in college.) The group has since sold more than 10 million copies of its albums and been nominated for four Grammys. Cost: \$55 (\$60 door)

SAT 16

Threading Strands

7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College Aguinas Hall | 845-913-7157 newburghsymphony.org

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform a stringsonly concert that includes Grainger's "Irish Tune from County Derry," Pärt's "Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten" and Vaughan-Williams' "Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis." Cost: \$35 to \$50 (\$25 seniors)

SAT 16 Fred Zepplin Band BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org

Headed by Fred Zepplin on ukulele, this Hudson Valley band covers not only Led Zeppelin but America, the Beatles, Pink Floyd, ELP, Deep Purple, Bowie, Kansas, Three Dog Night and Santana. Cost: \$15



SUN 17 Beacon Musicthon BEACON

4 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

In a celebration of the Salon Stage series, which began in 2013, Boom Kat, Carla Springer, Jerry Kitzrow, The Costellos, Russell St. George, Open Book, Len Xiang, Vickie Raabin and Abigail Lilly will perform. Free

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 9 **Dance Theatre of Harlem** WEST POINT

7 p.m. Eisenhower Hall Theatre 845-938-4159 | ikehall.com

The theater was founded in 1969 by Arthur Mitchell and Karel Shook to offer children – especially those in Harlem - the opportunity to learn about dance and the allied arts. Its 17-member professional company tours the world. Cost: \$45

SAT 16 The Vagina Monologues BEACON

7:30 p.m. Catalyst Gallery 137 Main St. | 845-204-3844 catalystgallery.com

Eve Ensler's play, first performed in 1996 and based on her interviews with more than 200 women. celebrates female sexuality and strength. The proceeds will benefit the Grace Smith House in Poughkeepsie, which battles domestic violence. Call to reserve tickets. Cost: \$12 cash

TALKS AND TOURS

SAT 9

West Point Foundry and the Creation of American **Technical Expertise** COLD SPRING

3 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St. | 845-265-4010 putnamhistorymuseum.org

Steven Walton, a professor of history at Michigan Technological University who has led numerous studies on the West Point Foundry, will tell the stories of its engineers, whose skills and techniques contributed to U.S. industry. Cost: \$10 (members free)

TUES 12

Bullet Journals 101 BEACON

6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org

Learn how to organize, plan and prioritize with this innovative method. Free

SAT 16 Community Conversation: Immigration

COLD SPRING 1 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St. | 845-265-4010 putnamhistorymuseum.org

FEBRUARY 8, 2019 11

In this program, sponsored by Humanities New York, the museum's new executive director, Sarah Johnson, will lead a guided reading and discussion of President Lyndon B. Johnson's remarks at the signing of the Immigration Bill on Liberty Island in 1965. RSVP requested by email (info@ putnamhistorymuseum.org) or phone. Cost: \$10 (members free)

CIVIC

MON 11 City Council BEACON

7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza 845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 11 School Board BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900 beaconk12.org

TUES 12 School Budget Meeting

GARRISON 7 p.m. Garrison School 1100 Route 9D | 845-424-3689 gufs.org

TUES 12 Board of Trustees

COLD SPRING 7:30 p.m. Village Hall 85 Main St. | 845-265-3611 coldspringny.gov

WFD 13

WED 13

GARRISON

gufs.org

Village Board NELSONVILLE

School Board

7 p.m. Garrison School

1100 Route 9D | 845-424-3689

6:30 p.m. Village Hall 258 Main St. | 845-265-2500 nelsonvilleny.gov

yourself extra time: There will be other last-minute shoppers ahead of you!"

PHILIPSTOWN

Cold Spring Florist

159 Main St. 845-809-5588 Open Feb. 13 until 8 p.m. Open Feb. 14, 8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Advice from owner Mary Supino: "Some men know what flowers their wives like, so they might ask for lilies. I'm not a big rose person, and a lot of women aren't. I think most women prefer a mixed bouquet, so when the roses die you can still enjoy the bouquet. I don't think of Valentine's as a rose day as much as a flower day. I know we'll be busy on Thursday night because the men will get off the train and realize they forgot."

Now in Bloom

66 Main St. 917-848-1838 Open Feb. 13 until 7 p.m. Open Feb. 14, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Advice from owner Bo Corre: "I'll be doing arrangements in various colors: Vintage dusty pink and white, hot pinks and purple ones. lavender and maroon colors, deep reds and maroon colors. Whichever you choose should reflect the personality of the recipient: Soft and gentle or vibrant and passionate."

Forget-Me-Not

A Valentine's Day guide for the desperate

BEACON

Batt's Florist 4 Eliza St. 845-831-2288 Open Feb. 13 until 7 p.m. Open Feb. 14, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. battsfloristandsweets.com

Advice from owner Carol Cappillino: "Valentine's falls on the same day every year, so it shouldn't surprise you. I tell people to spend within their budget. I've been doing this for 40 years and can tell you, whether you can afford one rose or a dozen, it really is the thought that counts. If you want to impress her, have them delivered to the restaurant so they are waiting for her at the table."

Flora Garden & Home

197 Main St. 845-764-1886 Open Feb. 13 until 5:30 p.m. Open Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Advice from owner Mary Fris: "Don't wait until the last minute because if I run out, you are out of luck. Avoid the 'cardboard roses' — the equivalent of Red Delicious apples — found in every drugstore. Garden roses, or David Austin roses, are older varieties, often fragrant and unusual in color and petal arrangement. Many people prefer an assortment: Ranunculus and Lisianthus are popular and grown in local greenhouses and so are Anemones. Mixed with waxflow-



474 Main St. 845-765-8660 Open Feb. 13 until 7 p.m. Open Feb. 14, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. ravenrosebeacon.com Advice from owner Courtney Sedor:

Raven Rose

ers and antique Holland Hydrangeas, they

make a beautiful and romantic bouquet."

"When florists order roses for the holiday, we are required to buy a mix of colors, so be open to something other than red. If buying on Valentine's Day, you will have to be flexible; ask for a 'designer's choice.' And if you shop at the last minute, give



379 Main St., Beacon townecrier.com • 845.855.1300



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AWARD WINNERS



The Beacon City School District launched an employee recognition program by naming its first two honorees. Tracy Gida has been with the district for 18 years as an elementary teacher's assistant, and Mike Pennacchio, with 35 years of service, works on the night crew at Rombout Middle School. Gida, Pennacchio and Superintendent Matthew Landahl (front row) are shown with members of the Board of Education.



The Putnam History Museum announced the winners of its annual Jean Saunders History Contest for Philipstown seventh-graders. The contest, which has been conducted annually for more than 30 years, is named for the museum's first curator. Julie Shields of Haldane won first place for "Early Schools of Philipstown," Ella Mekeel and Olivia Scanga of Haldane won second for "Main Street Then & Now," Mac Lake and Peter Pitaleff of the Garrison School won third for "Railroads in the Hudson Highlands" and Maggie Gordineer and Emily Tomann received honorable mentions for "The Cornish Estate." From left: Putnam History Museum director Sarah Johnson, Lake, Scanga, MeKeel, Tomann, Shields and Gordineer. *Photo by Jen McCreery*



The Beacon Elks held its 10th annual dinner on Feb. 2 to honor first responders. This year's recipients included Dale Plumer from the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Steve VanBuren from the Beacon Fire Department (Tompkins Hose Co.), Brian Lawrence from the Beacon Police Department and John Miller from the Dutchess Junction Fire Department, along with 10 others. The honorees are shown with members of the Elks Lodge.



The New York State Farm Bureau recognized its Dutchess-Putnam-Westchester (DPW) chapter for its participation with FeedHV, which rescues food that would otherwise go to waste from places such as restaurants, grocery stores, produce markets, farms and dining facilities and delivers it to food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. Shown are Mark Doyle, manager of Fishkill Farms and DPW treasurer; Martha Elder, executive director of Second Chance Foods; Isaac Coon of Coon Brothers Dairy Farm and DPW president; and Carrie Jones Ross, food security development manager for HVADC and FeedHV administrator.

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Pearce (from Page 9)

band died, and I couldn't wait to leave," she recalls. "It felt uncomfortable navigating life there as a widow. The moment I realized the house was sold, everything became heightened, magnified."

The opposite was true when they first moved in, she says. The couple met in the city and enjoyed life there but "Barre grew up on a 'gentleman's farm' in Connecticut and loved the outdoors." After he told her they needed to get a weekend place, she gave him "a limit of an hour-and-a-half radius." The couple bought the Garrison home in 1998, renovated it and sold their city apartment.

As the former director of events and publicity for the PEN American Center, Manché Pearce had extensive connections to the literary world. "I was writing all the time while I had that job," she recalls. "I did workshops and had strict routines, working on a novel and short stories before I went to work, and on Sundays. It was all very intense. Working with the writers I got to know through my job was very inspiring. I saw the persistence and tenacity that they had."

Just before her husband's illness, Manché Pearce had been experimenting with spoken-word performance as a member of Word of Mouth, a group which bonded during a Hudson Valley Writers Circle workshop taught by performance artist Karen Finley. But while caring for her husband, she had to drop everything for nearly a year, "and, in the end, the group just didn't work for me anymore at that juncture."

So she turned to poetry, which, she says, "felt like the container that was deep and large enough for that profound experience. Many of these poems were begun when I was living in Garrison and/or are about things which occurred when I was living in the house, including sightings of foxes, my favorite animals, and the pink trees blossoming near the Desmond-Fish Library." *Widowland* took years to write. "I did not write when Barre was ill, but I did take lots of notes," says Manché Pearce. "There was never a conscious choice about themes. Somehow, they just emerge from corners of your consciousness and you grab them. It was only when the poems were all written that I saw they could exist together."

Manché Pearce, who conducts poetry and memoir workshops at Drum Hill Senior Residence in Peekskill (where her students' average age is 90), hopes to bring *Widowland* readings and workshops to groups of people bound by loss. "It's a vehicle for expressing things that have happened," she says. "There are 11 million widows in the U.S. It's a social demotion for women. The loss of a spouse is No. 1 on the insurance stress list. It's unacknowledged trauma. These poems have resonated with people. It's loss. Our lives are filled with it."



Pamela Manché Pearce with her late husband, Barre Littel Photo provided

Completing the Circle

(from Page 9)

turer] SallyeAnder to create one."

"We realized that hearing these comments had given us the impetus to sit down and talk to a particular population, and from that, we thought about what we could offer them," adds Conway.

This goes for other topics. "Say we

meet six people in a week all looking for guidance in a particular area," says Cutler. "Our first go-to is to create a circle, or bring in a facilitator, or do individual counseling. That's the beauty of having the space. We can host people who have specific skills that we haven't got. We see potential and know our shortcomings."

One monthly meet-up at Wyld Womyn is designed for anyone going through a transition or who is a caregiver to someone going through a transition. Other upcoming classes, circles and workshops are related to macramé, babywearing, healing hands, sacred menstruation, childbirth education, the art of intimacy, beginner guitar and how to talk to your children about sexuality. The women also host bridal crossingthe-threshold blessings, replete with flower crowns and a footbath, as well as end-of-life contemplative-care circles. And they still provide doula services, including training.

Wyld Womyn sells goods related to the classes but retail isn't the focus, Conway says. "Other places will sell you a menstrual cup, but who else is going to sit down with you and explain how to use it? This space is where connections happen. That sounds very kumbaya, but I guess it is a little kumbaya. Every time we come up with an idea, we ask, 'Who cares? Who does it benefit?' "

"But we're living the kumbaya life," says Cutler. "For us it's not about 'being relevant.' We just try to be honest and authentic."

Wyld Womyn is located at 378C Main St. See wyldwomynbeacon.com or call 845-440-8300.



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Spirit of Beacon Day



Angelina's in Cold Spring

Photo by Michele Gedney

Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison

Photo by Ross Corsair



Kate Vikstrom took a moment to read an issue while visiting Macchu Piccu in Peru.



A newsboy on Garrison's Landing before the Hello Dolly! parade Photo by Cathy Lilburne



A summer Friday at Antipodean Books on Garrison's Landing Photo by Cathy Lilburne Photo by Cathy Lilburne

Out There

No Limits (Except All of Them) By Brian PJ Cronin

here's a saying, first attributed to acid guru Timothy Leary and later adopted by

ab-shredding gym lifers, that "pain is just weakness leaving the body."

But pain can also be weakness entering the body. This occurred to me last weekend as I collapsed on the side of a mountain in the Pacific Northwest.

I was there to run the Orcas Island 50K. which is 31 miles across 8,200 feet of elevation in under nine hours. It was six weeks after I had run the fastest marathon of my life. shaving 35 minutes off my previous best. It was also just days after I had been sick, and a week of ice storms, snow days, delayed openings and early dismissals in the Highlands meant that I was coming into the race having not run a step in more than a week and still chugging cold medicine straight from the bottle like a desperate hobo.

However, I had run longer races, and more vertical races. This wasn't one of the races in which I needed to do well to qualify for something else. This was just for fun. Fun! Which is why I still found myself toeing the starting line with a few hundred other funloving weirdos just after sunrise, the boozy orange kiss of DayQuil wet on my lips.

The race started well enough. The rain held off, the other runners were friendly. and the Washington scenery was gorgeous, like an episode of Twin Peaks. Then, also like an episode of Twin Peaks, everything went horrifically wrong.

My pace started flagging, then crashing. I was coming into the timed checkpoints with less and less time before the cutoff at which organizers pull you out of the race. I was hungry, but the idea of food made me nauseous. I fell in with a group of stragglers who were either battling injuries or exhausted from having also run a 50K the previous weekend (and you thought I was crazy), and we limped our way to Mile 20 with just two minutes to spare.

Up next was the course's most infamous feature, the Powerline Climb: 2,700 vertical feet to the summit of Mount Constitution, the tallest point in the San Juan Islands. To envision Powerline, imagine those first two steep switchbacks on the Casino Trail up Mount Beacon going on for 4 miles and the trail as mud.

The volunteers warned us that to make time, we would have to get started immediately. All of the runners immediately dropped out, except one.

Here's the thing about endurance sports. If you work at it, if you train, if you go out day in and day out, you find that you are

capable of more than you ever imagined. You learn that what you perceived as limits were just limits set by other people. You learn to stop listening to those people. How do you find out what your limits are unless you keep pushing?

So I was that one who decided to go for it. Everyone cheered and clapped. Someone put two peanut-butter sandwiches in my hand and pushed me toward the climb. My spirits lifted for about two minutes, until I realized I was ascending into a hellmouth.

I dropped a mile-and-a-half later. First physically, on that rock, and then from the race when a group of volunteers found me and informed me that I was very pale and did I know I was shaking? They fed me Tums and Starbursts and slowly walked me down the mountain.

A veteran trail runner who had recently completed the Moab 240 (as in miles, with a nearly 30,000-foot climb) offered me advice. Between the elevation and my illness, I should have doubled my usual caloric intake every hour, she said. At Moab, she accidentally went off course and started hallucinating and spent nine hours running through the desert in a daze. "Things happen in this sport," she said. (Who says Tom Brady is the greatest athlete of our time?)

Another volunteer drove me back to camp where, after a steady intake of coffee and pizza, I would make a full recovery. As we drove past Cascade Lake, he wanted to know: Did I enjoy the race?

Outside, the sun was emerging from behind bleached clouds, transforming the lake



ALL ALL

Partway through the Orcas Island 50K Photo by B. Cronin

into gold and trees to deep emerald. I thought about Fred Beckey, a legendary climber of the Pacific Northwest, who wrote that loveliness is paid for in the currency of suffering.

I told my driver I had I loved every minute of it, including the collapse. You have to love and accept it all, even the great woolly disasters and embarrassments. Otherwise, the weakness will never leave your body.







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The Highlands Current



All plastic bins in the classroom have been replaced.

Photos by A. Rooney





What I like most about this classroom is the Zen Den; you can go there for 3 minutes to relax.

At left, the Zen Den offers a space for reflection. At right, second-grade students Sundance DiGiovanni and Clara Schimming read on the new wool rug.



At left, the classroom bench was hewn by Mike Monteleone from wood donated by Dain's Lumber. At right, plastic letters were replaced with a set made from wood.

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Sustainable Class (from Page 1)

tion, recycling, and increased composting for the school garden."

The idea of creating a green classroom came easily to both women. Before coming to Garrison, Guigliano taught at Growing Up Green, a charter school in Long Island City. "The primary goal in the social curriculum was for the students to internalize the green mindset, so they would know that sustainability was the responsibility of everyone in the school community," she says.

When she applied to teach in Garrison, she was excited to learn the district owns a nearby, 185-acre forest. "I thought, the sky's the limit," she says, but also was surprised to find "the indoors didn't match the outdoors."

D'Alessio relied on her experience overseeing Montessori and Waldorf curriculums at private schools and working at residential schools, where she led outdoor horticulture and environmental programs.

The women also incorporated what is known as a "responsive classroom" approach that emphasizes "a social curriculum in which we take time to do 'community meetings'" with the children, Guigliano says. "We validate anything the children are feeling. We don't let things build up."

For the 2018-19 school year, Guigliano and D'Alessio received a \$2,336 grant from the Garrison Children's Educational Fund to expand the environmental curriculum. There are now more green objects in the room, including shelving, pillows, containers and storage for books made from sustainable materials. Plastic letter models have been exchanged for wooden ones. There's an in-room recycling center, where the children learn to sort. Artwork and photos of each child have been secured inside frames made from fallen bark collected from the school grounds.

The color of the classroom walls has been muted, repainted over the summer with zero-VOC [volatile organic compound] paint and earth tones. A Zen Den gives mindfulness a destination, and there's a small waterfall fountain.

Also new is a wood bench hewn by Mike Monteleone of Monteleone Contracting from a slab donated by James Dain of Dain's Lumber. Catherine Treuter and Claire Ruckel of the Philipstown Garden Club have been advising the young botanists (the club also has donated funds), and Dutch's Salvage in Nelsonville donated a wheelbarrow.

The students are working on a project for a school climate summit scheduled for later in the year. Guigliano says many have reported to her that they have made suggestions at home about how their families can reduce or eliminate plastics such as grocery bags. Families also were asked to shift to reusable water bottles and, the teacher reports, compliance has been encouraging.



A painting by Guigliano hangs to the left of work chosen by each student to display. Each child's photo is in a frame made with bark gathered from the school forest.

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Maloney (from Page 7)

natives to fossil fuels, such as wind and solar, which don't bring environmental problems but cost more money, would receive more attention because everything "gets evened out." "There's a lot we can do," he said, although "in democracies, we tend not to act. We tend to wait." As a result, he told the students, "you guys are going to deal with this, whether you like it or not."

Congressional reform

To improve American democracy, Maloney wants to end gerrymandering, or carving election boundaries to ensure that incumbents never face serious challenges.

"I'd make every district competitive," like his own 18th, which includes Philipstown and Beacon. He said competition motivates incumbents, "because if I'm not doing the job, you're going to hire somebody else." He also backed federal funding of campaigns so candidates "wouldn't have to raise money and everybody had an even shot," regardless of wealth. Right now, he said, "money is killing us."

Civil rights

Maloney spoke of a colleague, Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, who more than 50 years ago suffered a brutal beating while leading a civil rights march over an Alabama bridge. Maloney said Lewis told him to continue pushing for equal rights, and Maloney gave the same charge to the students. Generation by generation, the responsibility "is always the same: to not be satisfied with the status quo," he said. "It's up to you to keep fighting. It's young people who walk across the bridge."

He advocated a federal law to ban employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identification because it remains legal in more than half of U.S. states. (Gay workers are protected in New York, and a state law that goes into effect on Feb. 26 also makes it illegal to discriminate based on gender identity or expression.) A federal law banning discrimination will likely pass the House, now controlled by Democrats, Maloney said, but "that doesn't mean it's going to pass the Senate," with its Republican majority.

Government shutdown

Maloney used a question about the recent partial federal shutdown to provide a quick lesson on the U.S. Constitution, which gives

Pop Quiz: Your Government

1. Which amendment granted women the right to vote?

2. What court case established judicial review?

3. Which congressional committee holds the most power?

4. Before the 17th amendment, who elected senators?

5. How many votes will end a Senate filibuster?

6. What is a pocket veto?

7. Who chaired the Constitutional Convention in 1787?

8. How does the Declaration of Independence begin?

9. How old must you be to be elected president?

10. In 1776, which king did the colonists declare independence from?

Answers below right.

Congress authority over federal spending. "That's fundamental," he said. Otherwise, "if the president can spend money without Congress, he can become a dictator." The shutdown began when Congress refused Trump's demand for \$5 billion to build a wall on the country's southern border.

During the shutdown, Maloney declined his salary "because I wanted to be in the same spot as those TSA guys and FBI agents" working without pay. When seeing them at the airport, "I didn't want them to look at me, saying: 'You're one of those jerks who can't agree. You're getting paid and I'm not.'

"I'm glad we re-opened the government" after a 35-day stalemate, he added. "I'm glad President Trump essentially caved in on that." Congress faces the potential of another shutdown next week, when the temporary agreement expires.

BABY and DOG



This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Heather Bastian and Dylan Stolowitz of Garrison shared this photo of their son, Levi, with Lily, who is wearing her safety glasses for reasons unexplained. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

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Answers: (1) 19th, (2) Marbury v. Madison (1803), (3) The Rules Committee, (4) State legislatures, (5) 60, (6) It's a veto by inaction, (7) George Washington, (8) "When in the course of human events...," (9) 35, (10) King George III

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37

CROSSCURRENT

16

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24

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45

52

56

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71

DOWN

3. Drugs

1. Sun deity

4. Skein stuff

5. Domesticate

6. Prayer finale

10. Common

11. Tendy job,

initially

14. Cinnamon or

nutmeg

15. Low number

7 Common verb

8. Printer measure

preposition

13. Gloomy, in poetry

2. Neighbor to AZ

46

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

21

27

44

55

50

51

70

32

22

23

ACROSS

- 1. Mayor name, fully or partly
- 5. Desk without drawers
- 9. Castle defense
- 11. Noble female
- 12. Goad
- 14. Identical
- 15. Frequently
- 18. Knock
- 20. Response to 18
- 24. Tends to go with neither
- 25. Lofty bird nest
- 27. Creepy stuff
- 28. Historic periods
- 30. Undergrad degree
- 31. Young baseball great
- 32. At no charge33. Ancient Roman dad
- 35. Weird
- 37. State next to TX
- 38. Presidential hopeful Smith
- 39. Poets
- 42. Might
- 45. Kaput
- 47. Initial caucus state
- 48. Where taxes go
- 49. Alone
- 52. Brown van letters
- 53. Prevent
- 55. Battery type
- 56. Lacks any (contraction)
- 59. Form of poem
- 60. Shortened displays
- 62. Not hard
- 64. Vase jug
- 67. Western alliance
- 68. Saga
- 71. Numerical result 72. Mountain heights
- 17. Snare

16. Pro

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62		63			64	65		
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- 21. Get wearv
- 22. First lady
- 23. Grain
- 25. Old 16th
- president
- 26. Ocular orb
- 29. Lettuce lunch
- 32. Folders
- 34. Sticky road material
- 36. Uncooked
- 39. Type of fish
- 40. Beacon museum
- 41. London hotel or crinkly cabbage
- 42. Vegetable blend
- 43. Choose
- 44. Wander
- 45. Rhymes with huh

46. Marathon site

69

- agency, initially 50. Southeast Asian
 - ethnic group
- 51. Western
 - hemisphere grp.
- 54. Talking horse 57. Not far
- 58. London gallery
- 60. Film pirate actor
- 61. Buffalo's lake
- 63. Thus
- 65. Constitution's start
- 66. Letters at end of
- letter 67. Bond villain, Dr.
- 69. West Coast
 - counterpart to NY 70. Basic verb

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Feb 12

Feb 19

Feb 26

Mar 6

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			3	9		2	1
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	9	3		4			
	5	7					8
				2	4	7	
			6				

Answers will be published next week. See highlandscurrent.org/puzzle for interactive version.



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SPORTS

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Varsity Scoreboard

Girls' Basketball

Newburgh Free Academy 40, Beacon 38 Beacon 61, Peekskill 58 *Grace Affeldt (17), Dior Gillins (12)* Haldane 40, North Salem 25 *Bela Monteleone (16)* Hendrick Hudson 45, Haldane 14 Hastings 52, Haldane 37 *Monteleone (12)*

Boys' Basketball

Beacon 73, Lourdes 57 Dayi'on Thompson (21) Manny Garner (14) Beacon 64, Hendrick Hudson 38 Thompson (25), Aaron Davis (11) Peekskill 73, Beacon 68 Thompson (29), Garner (10) Haldane 50, North Salem 39 Kyle Sussmeier (17), Matt Champlin (13) Pawling 43, Haldane 41 Haldane 56, Westlake 47 Champlin (22), Sussmeier (12)

Wrestling

Beacon sectional qualifiers with divisional finishes Chris Crawford (1), 99 pounds Ryan Plimley (3), 126 pounds Javon Dortch (3), 152 pounds Joe Maldonado (3), 160 pounds Dirani Haynes (2), 182 pounds

Girls' Bowling Beacon 7, Arlington 0

Boys' Bowling Arlington 5, Beacon 2

Indoor Track

Beacon @ Section 1, Class B Championships Girls' 55 meters 1. Brianna Richardson (7.44) 2. Jada Williams (7.51) Boys' 300 meters 2. Kaleb Istvan (36.31) Boys' 1,000 meters 3. Zachary Cader (2:36.88) Boys' 1,600 meters 3. Ryan Cory (4:26.80) Boys' long jump 2. Mark Guzman (20-07.25) Haldane @ Section 1, Class B Championships Girls' 300 meters

10. Ashley Haines (45.28) Girls' 600 meters

10. Ashley Haines (1:43.89) Girls' 1,500 meters 9. Shannon Ferri (5:16.55)

Boys' 1,600 meters 8. Frank Bubbico (4:35.17)



Haldane honored its four seniors before Wednesday's win over Westlake: Kyle Kisslinger, Devon Siegel, Peter Rodriguez and Kyle Sussmeier

Blue Devils Roll to Victory 14

Hold off Westlake on senior night

By Skip Pearlman

he Haldane boys' basketball team gave their four seniors something to remember with a 56-47 victory over a persistent Westlake team on Wednesday (Feb. 6) on a night when the players and their parents were recognized.

The team honored Kyle Kisslinger, Devon Siegel, Peter Rodriguez and Kyle Sussmeier before the contest, then carried that energy into the game, building a 10-point halftime lead. The Blue Devils gave up a piece of their lead in the third quarter but kept the game out of reach in the fourth to improve to 14-5.

"The energy was the best of the year for us," said Coach Joe Virgadamo. "The guys came out and played with great intensity and focus."

Junior Matt Champlin led the Blue Devils with 22 points, Sussmeier added 12 and junior Alex Kubik had 10.

"Matt had his best game of the year," Virgadamo said. "He was unbelievable, finding ways to score and rebound. It was a great way to bounce back after a tough [43-41] loss to Pawling" on Feb. 2 at Vassar College. The Blue Devils finish the regular season on Tuesday, Feb. 12, at home against Blind Brook, with a 6:30 p.m. tipoff. The game is part of a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation that also will feature the junior varsity against Blind Brook at 4:45 p.m. and the modified team at 3:15 p.m. against Garrison.

Haldane is scheduled to play in the Section 1, Class C semifinal on Feb. 21 at the Westchester County Center in White Plains at a time and against an opponent to be determined. The championship game is scheduled for Feb. 23 at Pace University.

More Haldane hoops...

After a victory over North Salem last week and losses to Hendrick Hudson and Hastings, the Haldane girls' varsity (5-14) will finish its regular season at Putnam Valley on Feb. 12. The Section 1, Class C girls' tournament begins on Feb. 19.

Peter Hoffmann, a 2015 Haldane graduate, was named the New England Small College Athletic Conference men's basketball player of the week on Feb. 4. He averaged 18 points and five rebounds during three wins for Hamilton College while shooting 56 percent from the floor. The Continentals (19-2) are ranked as the No. 8 Division III team in the nation by D3Hoops.com.



Record of the Beacon modified boys' basketball team after it completed its season with a 80-78 win over Peekskill. Danny Mercado led the Bulldogs with 17 points and Wilson Ciccone scored 15.

Beacon Girls Score Late-Season Win at Peekskill

Affeldt hits five 3-pointers in victory



Grace Affeldt led Beacon with 15 points against Peekskill. Photos by S. Pearlman

By Skip Pearlman

he Beacon High School girls' basketball team took a trip to Peekskill on Tuesday (Feb. 5) and came home with a hard-fought 61-58 victory over the Red Devils.

The win was the Bulldogs' third of the season, against 14 losses, including a defeat earlier in the season to Peekskill at home. (The girls also have victories over Roosevelt and Haldane.)

"They beat us by double digits [52-39] the last time we faced them, but today the girls did a good job executing our game plan," said Coach Christina Dahl.

The Bulldogs led 32-28 at halftime. Grace Affeldt finished with 15 points on five 3-pointers. Dior Gillins added 12 and Lejdina Gecaj had 11.

"Grace played the entire game for us," Dahl said. "She's our go-to scorer. Dior was in a little foul trouble, and the team did a good job managing the game when she was on the bench. Sarah Evans gave us nine rebounds and five blocks."

Beacon was scheduled to host Walter Panas on Feb. 7 and finish its regular season with trips to Hendrick Hudson on Feb. 12 and Poughkeepsie on Feb. 13.