Researcher Says Resolution Twisted Her Findings

Says legislature did not acknowledge protest

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

A health professor whose work is cited in a resolution passed on April 2 by the Putnam County Legislature condemning the state Reproductive Health Act says her research was misrepresented.

Drafted by Robert Firriolo, the Legislature's lawyer, the resolution urges the state Legislature to repeal the RHA, claiming it is "essentially authorizing infanticide," will make abortions "less safe and more common" and can "allow violent criminal acts to go unpunished."

Enacted in January, the RHA allows any licensed and certified health care practitioner — not only a medical doctor — to perform abortions, and eliminates a requirement that a second doctor monitor an abortion at 20 weeks’ gestation or later in case it results in the birth of a live child who would die without immediate medical care.

The law also revised the state criminal code, which had allowed someone who attacked a pregnant woman and killed her fetus to be charged with criminal abortion.

(Continued on Page 17)

Energy Collective Reaches Its Tipping Point

Enough municipalities sign on to move forward

By Jeff Simms

The Town of Fishkill on April 3 became the sixth municipality — joining Beacon, Philipstown and Cold Spring — in Hudson Valley Energy’s Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, which will negotiate electricity prices for residents and businesses in the region beginning later this year.

The CCA is just the second in New York, following one that launched in Westchester County in 2016. The other members of the collective are Marlboro and Poughkeepsie, which signed on two weeks ago. Beacon was the first municipality to join the program, then called Renewable Highlands, in January 2017, followed by Philipstown in February of that year and Cold Spring that March.

“We’re in a good spot now,” said program director Jeff Domanski, who lives in Beacon. “For everyone involved we’re going to get a better price” than what Central Hudson charges.

(Continued on Page 9)

Who’s on the Ballot

Candidates file petitions for November races

Philipstown and Putnam

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

At least three candidates will be chasing two open seats on the Philipstown Town Board this fall. Robert Flaherty and Judy Farrell, both Democratic incumbents, will campaign to return to the board after the November election; they will be challenged by Christopher Lyons, who will appear on the Republican Party line of the ballot.

Town Clerk Tina Merando, a Republican seeking her fifth, 4-year term, will also have a challenger: Tara Percacciolo, a Democrat who is secretary for the town’s Planning, Conservation and Zoning boards.

Merando, who was deputy town clerk for a decade before being elected town clerk in 2003, defeated Ann McGrath-Gallagher in 2015 with 55 percent of the vote.

Supervisor Richard Shea and Highway Superintendent Carl Frisenda, both Democrats, will not have Republican challengers. Shea is seeking his sixth, 2-year term.

(Continued on Page 19)
John Gunn is chairman of the Beacon Planning Board.

You said something during the meeting on Tuesday (April 9) about what the board can and can’t do. Can you explain?

Some of the feedback we hear can be pretty emotional. I’ve been in Beacon for 17 years, so I’m aware of how one can think, “I like it just the way it is; how dare someone come and change things?” When change happens, those emotions can turn into, “How can the city let this happen?” It’s understandable. People can best influence how development takes shape through involvement at the City Council and the conversation around how zoning laws are established. It’s easy to get lost in the details and go down a road that may not be aligned with how city agencies work together and the actual role of the Planning Board.

Should people still speak at public hearings?

We absolutely encourage input. We put a lot of careful thought and time into considering how we’re addressing concerns. The Planning Board has some leeway in interpreting laws, but we have to think about how we want to weigh in, within our purview, in a fair and thoughtful way. We have to do a delicate dance between our roles as board members and our personal observations. It’s easy to lose sight of the fact that every member of the board lives here, too. We have the same concerns.

How did you get involved in city government?

I moved to Beacon in 2002, right before Dia opened. I wanted to start a life with my then-young family outside of New York City. Beacon stood out, even in the condition it was in then. I got a call from Mayor Clara Lou Gould, who said: “I hear you’re an architect. You have to join the Planning Board.” She didn’t give me an option! It was a great way to get to know the city. I sat on the board from 2003 until 2012 and then took a break. In 2018 I rejoined after Jay Sheers stepped down. My involvement has been based on a love for Beacon and the opportunity to make an impact on the only city my daughters have known. It’s their hometown.

You engage a lot with the audience. Why is that?

It’s far more impactful when you’re having an exchange if the other person knows you’re listening. Hopefully, it helps break the barriers between us, in our official capacity, and our neighbors. As much as people get emotional, I want them to understand that we get it. Sometimes people are angry. They see us as the enemy. I want to respectfully engage with people to remind them that we’re human, too.

Some meetings go really late. Are you a zombie on the second Wednesday morning of every month?

It’s important, even if it means some long days, to try to give back, so I’m willing to stick it out. I’d like to think that what we do matters.
**Cold Spring Resident Says He Foiled Robbery**

**Tells police thieves fled at sight of his gun**

A Cold Spring resident told police that he foiled an attempted home invasion and robbery attempt last month by displaying his handgun.

The homeowner, who asked not to be identified because of concerns for his safety, said he answered his front door on March 16 to find two men who claimed to be looking for a nearby address. The resident said the men pushed him inside, knocking him against the front door and causing a minor cut to his arm.

The homeowner said that after he produced his .38-caliber pistol, one man fled, jumping over the porch railing. The resident said he subdued the other man momentarily but the suspect escaped while the homeowner was dialing 911.

“I don’t usually carry my gun but for some reason I did that day,” the homeowner said, adding that he has a permit for the weapon. He described the men as Hispanic males in their 20s.

Cold Spring police and Putnam County sheriff’s deputies responded to the 911 call. The sheriff’s office said it is investigating the incident.

**Beacon Firefighters Rescue Sleeping Tenant**

**Smoke detectors in apartment had been removed**

Bacon firefighters rescued the occupant of an apartment behind the All You Knead bakery on April 4 following an early morning blaze.

In a statement, the department said firefighters responded to a 911 call from a baker who had arrived at All You Knead at 309 Main St. just before 3:30 a.m. and discovered light smoke in the bakery’s kitchen.

Firefighters located the fire in a rear apartment in the three-story building. After forcing open the door, they found the occupant asleep in a rear bedroom. The fire was confined to the apartment’s kitchen but there was smoke damage throughout the unit.

Two smoke detectors in the apartment had been removed from the ceilings, the department said.

**New Smoke Detector Law**

**Ban on devices with replaceable batteries**

A new state law went into effect on April 1 that bans the sale of smoke detectors that require replacement batteries. Instead, the only detectors that can be sold in the state are those with sealed, non-removable lithium batteries or that can be hardwired.

The law passed in 2015 but included a four-year grace period so that manufacturers could sell their inventory of battery-powered detectors. Homeowners and landlords do not have to immediately replace detectors that use replaceable batteries but must do so before selling or renting a home or apartment.

**Award Finalists Announced**

**Cold Spring and Dutchess nominees**

In anticipation of its annual awards dinner on April 25, the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is collecting votes for its People’s Choice honors.

The nominees for new business of the year are Chapeau, Cold Spring Cheese Shop, Dolly’s Restaurant, Poor George, Snowflakes Ice Cream and Split Rock Books. The nominees for “silver” firms, or those in business for at least 25 years, are Badey & Watson, Cold Spring Depot Restaurant, George A. Logan & Sons, Hudson House River Inn and Romeo & Juliet Salon.

To cast a vote, visit surveymonkey.com/r/2BYFGGD by April 21.

At the dinner, the chamber will honor Kim Conner and Nick Groombridge, who established the Old VFW Hall, with the James G. Lovell Community Award; Cockburn Farm with the Sustainable Business Award; and Philipstown Communities That Care Coalition and the Philipstown Community Congress with the Collaboration of the Year Award. For tickets, which start at $65, see bchamber-dinner.

Four Beacon-area institutions have been nominated for Dutchess Tourism Awards of Distinction.

Among the three finalists in seven categories are Fishkill Farms for overall distinction; BeaconArts for arts; and Bannerman Castle Trust and the Beacon Historical Society for history.

The sixth annual awards will be presented on May 7 at the FDR Presidential Library & Museum in Hyde Park. See dutchesstourism.com/awards for tickets.
Abortion resolution

Thank you for reporting on the resolution passed by the Putnam County Legislature calling for the repeal of the state Reproductive Health Act (“Putnam Approves Anti-Abortion Resolution,” April 5).

Although you said the measure passed “after prolonged debate,” there was no prolonged debate — there was no debate at all. These legislators introduced a deeply flawed resolution on March 18 with barely any notice to the public beyond to those who actively check the legislature’s website, and approved it two weeks later despite much opposition, including from the researcher cited in the resolution, Diana Greene Foster, who wrote the legislature on March 28 to explain they had cited her research inaccurately and misunderstood the study used to support their position. No one made her letter public and the text of the resolution did not change in light of this. I had to write to Foster myself to find out.

The public was allowed to speak and spectators were deeply divided on the issue but that did not constitute a debate — the public comments didn’t matter because the legislators acted on their own personal beliefs, rather than genuinely considering all the facts and nuance involved in the issue.

This is part of a coordinated national effort on the part of faith-based organizations to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Roe v. Wade — it is shameful and embarrassing that Putnam County is behaving in similar fashion to the Bible Belt of Georgia. You do not work for the church, Putnam Legislature. Those who proposed and support (and probably wrote) the resolution are mostly older, and the majority of legislators who voted in favor are men — the demographic this resolution actually affects broadly opposes it, according to every poll on abortion.

Read the resolution — it is straight out of The Handmaid’s Tale. It claims that the RHA authorizes infanticide and that women get late-term abortions for reasons including “travel considerations” and inconvenience. When was the last time you met a woman who terminated or wanted to terminate a viable 8.5-month pregnancy because she couldn’t go on vacation?

The resolution similarly suggests that anyone will now be able to perform abortions without having spoken to any actual doctors about how the process works. Women and doctors make the best choices on these issues, they do not need legislators with zero knowledge of any of the facts, the majority of whom have never and will never be faced with these decisions, to speak for them.

Please file a complaint with the state Attorney General if you oppose this resolution.

Eileen McDermott, Cold Spring

I’m not trying to change anyone’s opinion regarding abortion rights or the RHA. Most people are uncompromising on this issue. What I will say is that taxpayer dollars were definitely spent preparing the resolution and holding public hearings. The time could have been spent focusing on infrastructure and other areas where local governments have a meaningful impact. This resolution that will have no real-world application.

Does everyone understand that one county legislature passing a resolution that says “we don’t like your state law and you should repeal it” is a joke? This is going to have zero impact because, as we all learned in middle school, state law is above local law. State law is the rock and local law is the scissors in a game of rock, paper, scissors. Gotta keep it simple for this “venerable body.”

Caroline Jensen, via highlandscurrent.org

The level of ignorance in the Putnam County Legislature, with the exception of Nancy Montgomery, is beyond belief. People may want June and Ward Cleaver as their next-door neighbors, but I hate to break it to you: Wally would be divorced and living at home with the folks and paying child support and “The Beaver” would have a heroin habit that almost killed him twice but would refuse to admit he has a problem. It’s kind of like the Legislature, which has a huge problem, too, but refuses to acknowledge it. Shame on you, Putnam County!

Gregory Bochow, Cold Spring

This resolution was a waste of time and resources. Come on, Putnam County. This was settled decades ago. Let’s vote for people who want to move forward.

Carol Webster, via Facebook

Not one of those legislators is young enough to get pregnant!

Joan Martorano, via Facebook

I’m in my 50s and still find myself perplexed by those willing to allow government involvement in what is a deeply personal decision. Reproductive choice is an essential and fundamental component of modern human rights.

Wade Hathaway, Cold Spring

(Continued on Page 5)
Land records

In her genealogy column in the March 29 issue (“Family Trails: Land Records and Brick Walls,” March 29), Valerie LaRo-bardier noted that before 1850, “some 90 percent of the male population owned land.” I think she meant to say “some 90 percent of the white male population.”

Aaron Wolfe, Cold Spring

The editor responds: You might be surprised. Read on.

Like genealogists, land surveyors often search records dating to the early 1800s. When we retrace property lines, especially in rural areas, we often have to trace chains of title back more than 200 years. Finding old names, following family relationship trails, utilizing old atlases and researching at the State Archives and historical societies are important parts of our jobs. My firm just finished a project where we traced a road in Dutchess County to pre-colonial times and applied a law from the early 1700s to determine the road width.

While the majority of the early property records deal with the white male population, we find lots of old records of land ownership by freed slaves, including communities founded and made up almost entirely of freed slaves in Dutchess County, some dating to before the Civil War. There

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown, Putnam County, New York will conduct a HEARING on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 7:30 pm, prevailing time at the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516.

The purpose of the Hearing is to hear comments for/against the Annual MS4 Report. All Persons interested will be heard at that time, date and place specified above.

A complete copy of the Annual MS4 report is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office, Town of Philipstown, Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York where it may be examined during the Town Hall hours.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Theresa Crawley, Deputy Town Clerk

Dated: April 5, 2019

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown at the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York on the 2nd Day of May, 2019 at 7:15 pm prevailing time, upon the question of Re-introducing a Local Law establishing a six (6) month moratorium on the submission and processing of applications for Land Use Approvals for “Vape Shops” with the Town of Philipstown.

All Persons interested will be heard at that time, date and place specified above.

A complete copy of the proposed Local Law is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office, Town of Philipstown, Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York where it may be examined during the Town Hall hours.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Theresa Crawley, Deputy Town Clerk

Dated: April 5, 2019

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on March 25, 2019, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the School District Clerk for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.


Kelly Pologe

School District Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 25, 2019.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $2,620,160 BONDS OF THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF BEACON, DUTCHESS COUNTY, TO PAY THE DISTRICT’S SHARE OF the cost of a CAPITAL PROJECT OF THE BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES OF DUTCHESS COUNTY.

Object or purpose: The District’s share of the cost of a Capital Project, being improvements at the BOCES Campus on Salt Point Turnpike: (i) minor additions and renovations of certain existing facilities, (ii) construction of a new alternative high school building: (iii) addition of parking, wastewater treatment, and possibly water supply facilities to accommodate these improvements, and (iv) the acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus required in connection with the purposes for which such buildings, facilities and improvements are to be used

Period of probable usefulness: 30 years

Maximum estimated cost: $2,620,160

Amount of obligations to be issued: $2,620,160 serial bonds
may well be good information there for someone searching.

Thomas Cerchiara, Beacon
Cerchiara is president of TEC Land Surveying in Beacon.

Open government
The next time you update your list ("Your Open Government," April 5), you might want to include the Howland Public Library District in Beacon. Public library districts are subject to many of the same open-records laws as other districts.

Phyllis Keaton, Garrison
Keaton is a former director of the Howland Library.

Beacon balconies
The apartment building under construction at 249 Main St. in Beacon appears to have balconies for the upper-floor residences which will overhang the sidewalk.

Does this mean that planters, containers of alcohol and the like will be falling onto the sidewalk from these upper levels? In wind will these objects fall onto parked or moving vehicles? Is this the approved design?

Frank Haggerty, Cold Spring
The editor responds: In November 2016, the Beacon Planning Board voted to amend the 249 Main St. project’s architectural approval. According to Planning Board meeting minutes, the board agreed to allow project officials to add balconies with black wrought iron rails on the front residential units and flush Juliet balconies on the rear elevation of the building.

Chessmasters
I’m so glad to hear that the Haldane chess program we launched in 2015 is continuing to grow and flourish ("All the Right Moves," April 5). I’m so proud of these students for their commitment and success, and coaches Abby Marshall and Alanna Katz are truly fabulous. I hope to see many of my former students at Pocantico’s chess tournament on May 19.

Brent Harrington, Sleepy Hollow
Harrington, a former elementary principal at Haldane, is now a principal in the Pocantico Hills district.
Maloney has introduced five other bills during the current session of Congress and introduced 35 in the 2017-18 session. A sample appears below.

HR5827: Extends funding for the federal dam safety program through 2024. Maloney noted that nearly 100 of the 800 dams in the Hudson Valley are designated as “high hazard,” meaning their failure would likely cause death and major economic damage. [Passed as part of the Water Resources Development Act.]

HR2485: Requires airline medical kits to include child-sized dosages. [Passed as part of reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration.]

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET, ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION AND VOTE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, will hold a public hearing on the budget at Beacon High School, 101 Matthew Avenue, Beacon, New York, on Monday, May 13, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2019-2020 School Year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for School District purposes during the 2019-2020 school year (the Budget), as prepared by the Board of Education, may be obtained by any resident of the District during the fourteenth (14) days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, commencing May 1, 2019, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays during regular school hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at each of the District’s schoolhouses, at the Administrative Offices, and on the District’s website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

A. To elect three (3) members to the Board of Education for three year terms (commencing July 1, 2019 and expiring June 30, 2022);
B. To vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for School District purposes during the 2019-2020 School Year; and
C. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, dated March 11, 2019, authorizing the purchase of school buses at a maximum estimated cost of $450,000, authorizing the issuance of $450,000 bonds of said School District to pay the costs thereof; and that such sum or so much as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law; and providing that, in anticipation of said tax, obligations of the School District shall be issued; determining the period of probable usefulness and maximum maturities thereof to be five years; pledging the faith and credit of said School District for the payment of said obligations; authorizing the first allotment of said obligations; authorizing the board to accept the appraisals of the chief fiscal officer with respect to the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; containing an estoppel clause and providing for the publication of an estoppel notice, be approved?

D. To vote on any other proposition legally proposed.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that for the purposes of voting, the School District has been divided into two (2) election districts and that an accurate description of the boundaries of these school election districts is on file and on public view at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the 2019 Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held at the following polling places in the School Election Districts hereinafter set forth;

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1

POLLLING LOCATION: BEACON HIGH SCHOOL

Description: First Ward, First and Second Districts; Second Ward, First, Second, and Third Districts; Third Ward, First, Second and Third Districts; Fourth Ward, First and Second District

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2

POLLLING LOCATION: GLENN HAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Description: Bounded on the north and east by Wappinger Central School District No. 1, Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County; south by the common town line of the Towns of Fishkill and Wappinger and west by the Hudson River. Bounded on the north by the common town line of the Towns of Fishkill and Wappinger, east by New York Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the Towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County and Union Free School District No. 3, Town of Fishkill, south by Beacon City line and west by Hudson River. Bounded northeasterly by former Common School District No. 4 in the Town of Fishkill and Wappinger, easterly by Greek Central District No. 1 in the Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the Towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County and Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Philipstown and Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County; southerly by Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Philipstown and Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County and the Towns of Fishkill in Dutchess County; westerly by the Hudson River and the City of Beacon being the former Union Free School District No. 3 of the Town of Fishkill.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that petitions for nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M., on the 20th day preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, Wednesday, May 1, 2019. Such petitions must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified voters of the District, shall state the name and residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. Petition forms may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, has fixed Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York, as the date on which the Board of Registration of said School District will meet between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, for the purpose of preparing the register of the School District for each election district for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at which time any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon such register if known or proven to the satisfaction of the registrars to be true or thereafter entitled to vote. Persons whose registration to vote with the County Board of Elections is current, pursuant to Article 5 of the Education Law, shall be qualified to vote without further registering with the School District’s Board of Registration, as well as all persons who shall have previously registered for any annual or special district meeting or election and who shall have voted at any annual or special district meeting or election held or conducted at any time during the 2015, 2016, 2017 or 2018 calendar years.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the register of voters so prepared shall be filed in the Office of the District Clerk and shall be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, beginning fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote. Said register will be open for inspection in each of the polling places during the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk or downloaded from the school district website. The completed application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the election if the ballot is to be mailed or the day before the election if the ballot is to be picked up at the Office of the District Clerk. Absence ballots must be returned to the Office of the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, on the day of the election. A list of all persons to whom absence ballots shall have been issued will be available in the said Office of the District Clerk during regular office hours until the day of the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge.

Dated: March 11, 2019

By the Order of the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District

Kelly Pologe, School District Clerk
EPA Defers Judgment in Hudson Cleanup

Agency certifies dredging as ‘properly completed’

By Brian PJ Cronin

General Electric is not off the hook yet.

That point was emphasized repeatedly by Pete Lopez, regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency, during an April 11 news conference on the status of a federally ordered cleanup of the Hudson River.

After decades of legal sparring, GE was ordered to dredge the Upper Hudson to reduce the amount of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that its factories had discharged into the river over a 30-year period.

Environmental groups, lawmakers and Gov. Andrew Cuomo said they feared the EPA would issue a Certificate of Completion to the firm, which would clear GE of further responsibilities and shield it from lawsuits.

Instead, the agency issued a Certificate of Completion of the Remedial Action, which states only that GE finished the required dredging. A Certificate of Completion is not expected to be issued for at least 50 years, as both the EPA and the state Department of Environmental Conservation will widen their tracking and monitoring of the river to determine the effectiveness of the cleanup.

The certification that his agency issued “is not the EPA saying that we have concluded that no dredging will ever be needed,” said Lopez. “It simply says that GE has performed the construction and other dredging work that was specifically required. If new information comes in that causes the EPA to conclude that more work is needed to protect public health and the environment, we can and will require GE to take that action.”

Concerns had been raised by environmental groups in the past that once GE removed its dredging equipment and de-watering plant from the river, it would be difficult to get the company to return. But Lopez said that “if we have to reinstall, we’ll do that. It’s not uncommon. Temporary dewatering facilities can be put back in place, and if it has to be, it has to be.”

Lopez also said that, contrary to reports by the state DEC, there has not been substantial recontamination of PCBs in dredged areas.

EPA Regional Administrator Pete Lopez

“Some movement of sediment between dredged and non-dredged areas has always been expected,” he said. “But it is not seen as an obstacle to achieving protective over time.”

The administrator also discounted the existence of so-called “hot spots” in the Upper Hudson that still contain an unusually high amount of contamination. Instead he said there were only three “areas of interest” — one in the river near Northumberland and two near Mechanicville — which were identified as having somewhat elevated levels of PCBs and will continue to be monitored.

The EPA isn’t off the hook, either. Just hours after the news conference, Cuomo and Attorney General Letitia James announced the state will sue the agency over its decision. Cuomo said that the EPA had “failed to hold GE accountable for fulfilling its obligation to restore the river” and that the state would demand “a full and complete remediation.”

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose district includes the Highlands, also disagreed with the decision, saying “the EPA has failed New York” and that its ruling was “completely unacceptable and a dereliction of duty.”

In response to the possibility of a lawsuit, Lopez said the agency’s goal “is to make sure we’re making the right decision, based on science and the law. Based on [advice from] our counsel, we feel that we are legally bound to issue this certification. And it’s OK if it’s tested in the courts. That’s part of our democratic process. If they do advance that, we’re expecting it will lend itself to greater clarity about this.”
Energy Collective (from Page 1)

He said that while some people have been confused about the benefits of switching to a new provider, “this partnership with the communities at the lead makes it easier by removing that burden.” Electricity will still be distributed and billed through Central Hudson, and residents can opt out of the CCA at any time, he added.

The next step for the newly formed collective is to solicit bids from energy suppliers, Domanski said. The contract between that supplier and Hudson Valley Energy will guarantee both a “green” energy option and a better rate than what Central Hudson charges, on average.

The Westchester Power CCA, which includes Peekskill and 26 other municipalities, covers about 110,000 homes and businesses. When it entered into its second, 2-year contract in January with an energy supplier, Constellation NewEnergy Inc., the residential rate was set at $7.96 cents per kilowatt hour for renewable energy. It also negotiated a rate for standard supply at $7.71 cents/kwh. Nineteen of the 20 municipalities in the Con Ed territory opted for renewable, the CCA said, including three who switched from standard to renewable.

Newburgh plant

The owners of a seldom-used Newburgh power plant are awaiting approval to build a new facility that they say will produce more and cleaner energy. Environmental groups don’t agree.

Danskammer Energy asked the state Public Service Commission last year for permission to build a fast-starting, air-cooled facility to replace its nearly 70-year-old natural gas-powered plant. If it’s approved, company officials say the facility will provide energy for about 500,000 homes and businesses and complement the state’s increased usage of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and hydropower.

The facility would still use natural gas but would significantly cut its emissions, Danskammer CEO Bill Reid told the Beacon City Council on April 1. The company expects to be asked to generate more power once the Indian Point nuclear plant closes in 2021, he added.

“We have a very, very old car that we’re running up and down the highway,” Reid said. “Our goal is to put in a much more efficient facility that uses a lot less natural gas and to help the state get to a more renewable grid.”

Last month Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper and other environmental groups told the state they opposed the changes at Danskammer, which they argued runs counter to the New York’s plans for increased renewable energy usage, will harm air quality and strain regional water supplies. Scenic Hudson hosted a forum in Wappingers Falls on April 8 to rally residents against the proposal.

New York State Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson, whose district includes Beacon, said this week that he had no comment on Danskammer’s proposal. But a Highlands resident, Tara Vamos, urged the City Council during the April 1 meeting to push back against the expansion, saying that burning natural gas “will cause pollution here and will cause pollution that affects climate change globally.”
WATER RIGHTS — Beavers are known for their work ethic but they’ve been too industrious for Greg Phillips, Cold Spring’s superintendent of water and waste water. In his report on April 9 to the Village Board, Phillips described how a dam on Foundry Brook poses a problem for the water supply. As temperatures rise, organic material in the water caught behind it could create taste and odor problems. The village has secured a permit from the state to trap the beavers and slowly remove the 3-foot-high dam to prevent a surge. Photo by Michael Turton

EGG-CITING — The Loretto Council of the Knights of Columbus hosted its annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 6 at the Tots Park in Cold Spring. Photo by Ross Corsair

PROM PREP — Haldane students Tatiana Vidakovich, Jamie Calimano and Julia Rotando asked the Cold Spring Village Board at its April 9 meeting for permission to take prom photos on May 31 at the bandstand at the foot of Main Street. The traditional event is usually held at Boscobel but this year there is a scheduling conflict with a wedding, they explained. The board gave the OK. The girls are shown with Philipstown Town Board member Judy Farrell, who was attending the meeting. Photo by Michael Turton

ARTE POVERA
Giovanni Anselmo
Aliighiero Boetti
Pier Paolo Calzolari
Luciano Fabro
Jannis Kounellis
Mario Merz
Marisa Merz
Giulio Paolini
Pino Pascali
Giuseppe Penone
Michelangelo Pistoletto
Gilberto Zorio

Open: 11:00am to 5:00pm
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
Sunday, Monday
Closed: Tuesday, Wednesday
Admission is free to the public
No reservation required
Free shuttle from Cold Spring
train station

MAGAZZINO ITALIAN ART
Magazzino Italian Art Foundation
2700 Route 9, Cold Spring, NY 10516
845 666 7202
info@magazzino.art
www.magazzino.art
With spring around the corner, the reappearance of songbirds from the south has begun, making it an ideal time to learn how to identify them. “This is a class where you’ll be doing all the work,” said Pete Salmansohn, education chair for the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society, to about 40 people who came to Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison on March 31 for a lesson.

Based on a show of hands, most of those in attendance were ornithological novices. But Salmansohn reassured everyone that bird identification is “pretty easy, once you get the basics in terms of what to look and listen for.”

He cycled through a few common birds — chickadee, robin, goose, great blue heron — pointing out identifiers such as neck shape, or calls. Location matters, too. “Would you expect to see a great blue heron at a bird feeder?” he asked.

Other clues are size, patterns, colors, features, what a bird does with a specific feature, like a crest, or a combination of any of these factors. A cardinal’s triangular beak, for instance, helps it crack open seeds.

After dividing into smaller groups, the participants studied a pack of 10 color photos of unidentified birds and responded to a questionnaire with inquiries such as “Which bird can easily grab onto tree bark?” (downy woodpecker and nut hatch) or “Identify two birds which look closely related, by shape.” Additional questions were connected to the drawings mounted on a display. “Name three birds with Mohawks,” one asked.

One knowledgeable participant was Amara Gross, a third-grader at the Garrison School, who attended with her father, Mark. Her hand shot up each time Salmansohn asked a question, and she knew her stuff, which she attributed to a five-week class program on birds. “We learned about their habitats, and the dangers of migration,” she volunteered, noting that those dangers included “predators, like cats, storms, and lightning.” Her class also learned, she said, about “field marks, which include pattern and colors.” Amara blazed her way through the worksheets, with only an occasional assist from her father.

The program also featured an auditory component when Salmansohn played recordings of birds’ calls and had everyone attempt to duplicate them. Then it was a round of guess-that-bird:

“It has a pattern on its wings, which we call wing bars; it’s sparrow-shaped, with big eyes, big feet and a long tail. Who knows what this bird is?”

No one knew. It was a mockingbird, which Salmansohn conceded are not common in the Highlands.

There was more success with the next bird, described as measuring about 17.5 inches long, with a long, pointy beak, a skinny neck, “and the Mohawk thing.” Several members of the audience correctly identified the pileated woodpecker.
THE WEEK AHEAD

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

EASTER EGG HUNTS
SAT 13
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Christ Church
60 Union St. | 845-831-0365
Children in kindergarten through fifth grade can celebrate with crafts, snacks and an egg hunt at dusk. Call for reservations.

SUN 14
COLD SPRING
11 a.m. United Methodist Church
216 Main St. | facebook.com/coldspringchurch
Children ages 12 and younger are invited to bring a basket.

WED 17
BEACON
Noon. Mount Gulian
145 Sterling St. | 845-831-8172
mountgulian.org
Children will go first.

EASTER EGG HUNTS
SAT 13
BEACON
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. | beacoreasterday.com
Sign up at the website to help clean up any of six sites, then enjoy a barbeque at the Beacon Recreation Center at 23 W. Center St. from 12:30 to 3 p.m. and a performance from Arm of the Sea Theater at 2 p.m. Free

SUN 14
BEACON
59 Robert Cahill Dr.
BEACON
SAT 20
Market will host an egg hunt at dusk. Call for more information.

COMMUNITY
SAT 13
Earth Day Celebration and Cleanup
BEACON
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. | beaconearthday.com
Children in kindergarten through fifth grade can celebrate with crafts, snacks and an egg hunt at dusk. Call for reservations.

SUN 14
Wildlife Through the Hidden Lens
COLD SPRING
1 p.m. Old VFW Hall | 34 Kemble Ave. | 845-424-3358 | bit.ly/htlwildlife
For the annual Hudson Highlands Land Trust community forum, Ed McGowan, director of the Trailside Museums & Zoo at Bear Mountain State Park; Scott LaPoint, a scientist with Black Rock Forest; and Brent Bocarino of the Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management will explain how they use cameras and other technology to understand the natural world. Registration required at website. Cost: $10 donation

TUES 16
Lego Adventures with Star Wars
BEACON
3 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Star Wars and Lego fans ages 5 to 10 will create a galaxy and take home a robot. Registration required. Free

STAGE & SCREEN
SAT 13
Four Seasons of Musical Theatre
GARRISON
2 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-809-5750
garrisonartcenter.org
The cast of the upcoming Beacon High School musical will discuss the film business in an appearance sponsored by MOCA, the Peekskill Film Festival and the two-day Art Industry Media Festival, which continues on SUN 14. See website for schedule. Cost: $25 ($20 members, $30 door)

SAT 20
Pissi Myles Drag!
BEACON
6 p.m. Denning’s Point Distillery
10 N. Chestnut St. | 845-476-8413
denningspointdistillery.com
The entertainers will perform her signature act. Free

SUN 21
The Bible According to Broadway
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012 | hvti.org
The Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative will perform songs from Godspell, Two by Two, Jesus Christ Superstar and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, among other shows. Cost: $30 ($15 door, $5 children)

VISUAL ART
SAT 13
Tableware for the 21st Century
PEEKSKILL
Noon – 2 p.m. Peekskill Clay Studios
1000 N. Division St. | 914-939-2529
peekskillclaystudios.com
During this opening reception, artists Brooke Evans, Jane Herold, Sarah Heitmeyer, Connor McGinn and Lindsey Rogers will participate in a panel. Free

KIDS & FAMILY
MON 15
Spring Break Fun
COLD SPRING
9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
The two-hour program will include a tour of the historic home and a craft. For ages 5 and older. Also WED 17. Cost: $12 ($8 members)
SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 13
Both Sides of the Creek
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Oak Vino | 389 Main St. 845-765-2400 | oaktined.com
The exhibition will feature works by Allison Frost and Sarah Reinstein that showcase the beauty of the valley and its history.

SAT 13
Wet
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St. 845-440-7584 | baugallery.com
Faith Adams, Carla Goldberg, Russell Ritter and Melissa Schlobohm will display ceramics, drawings, sculpture and prints of sea creatures found in the depths of the ocean.

In the Beacon Room, Eva Drizhali will mount a solo show, Enigma.

SAT 13
Bots, Bubbles & Luna
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery 163 Main St. | 212-295-2505
shop.cluttermagazine.com/gallery
TALKS & TOURS

SAT 13
Opening of the Fields
WAPPINGERS FALLS
1 p.m. Common Ground Farm 79 Farmstead Lane | 845-440-0068
commongroundfarm.org
Take a contemplative walk through the early spring fields guided by the farm’s director, Sarah Simon, and local faith and community leaders.

SAT 13
Remarkable Life of Clinton J. Peterson
COLD SPRING
5 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St. | 845-265-4010
putnamhistorymuseum.org
Jeffrey Sammons, a professor of history at NYU and author of Harlem’s Rattlers and the Great War, will speak about Major Peterson, an African-American whose parents as he grew up were in and out of the Putnam County poorhouse and whose later account of his experiences in World War I was serialized as “My Year in France.” Cost: $10 (members free)

SAT 13
Ways of Looking at a Woman
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St. 845-265-2080 | splitrockbkks.com
Caroline Hagoed will read from her book-length essay that uses personal experience, film and literary history to explore what it means to be a woman, mother and writer.

MON 15
Woody Guthrie and ‘Old Man Trump’
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon Sleep Club 2 Red Fynn Drive | 845-463-4660
beaconsleepclub.org
Will Kaufman, who has written three books about Guthrie, will perform a musical and spoken-word documentary on the battles Guthrie had with his landlord, Fred Trump.

TUES 16
Advance Healthcare Planning
GARRISON
6 p.m. Desmondfish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Alison Athineo, an end-of-life doula, will discuss living wills, and advance directives.

TUES 16
Microsoft Office 2010 for Beginners
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
The series will cover Word, Excel and Powerpoint. Also, THURS 18, TUES 23.

WED 17
Herbalism at Home
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Split Rock Books 97 Main St. | 845-265-2080
splitrockbkks.com
Phoebe Violet and Colin Wright of the Permaculture Arts Collective will demonstrate how to make medicine from local plants. Cost: $20

THURS 18
A Gathering of Laureates
BEACON
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Come to hear Beacon’s poet laureate, Peter Ullian, and his predecessors, Larry Sansone and Tony Pena. The Dutchess County poet laureate, Raphael Kosek, will also read.

SAT 20
Birding for Beginners
BEACON
9 a.m. Bear Mountain Inn Hessian Drive | trailsideozo.com
Meet at the Bear Mountain Inn for a presentation and take a walk. Suitable for ages 10 and older. Email county.larson@parks.ny.gov to register. Parking is $10.

SAT 20
Life and Ride of Sybil Ludington
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St. 845-265-2080 | splitrockbkks.com
Vincent Dacquino will read from his book, Patriot Hero of the Hudson Valley, which tells the story of the Revolutionary-era teen who rode more than 40 miles through Putnam County to warn the colonists about impending British raids.

MUSIC

SAT 13
Classic Country
BEACON
1 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Jennifer Dreaper will perform country hits from the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s accompanied by Eric Garrison and Patrick Stanfield Jones.

FRI 19
The Strawbs
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-655-1300 | townecrier.com
The Strawbs (a shortened version of their original name, The Strawberry Hill Boys) is on a 50th anniversary tour. The group began as a bluegrass band and progressed through folk, progressive and glam rock. Its song “Part of the Union” hit No. 2 on the British charts in 1973. Cost: $40 ($45 door)

SAT 20
Mighty Girl
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
mightygirl@brownpapertickets.com
Lena Fahringer (vocals, guitar), Bill Fahringer (drums), Mark McNutt (guitar) and Ed Sikora (bass) will return to the Howland for an encore. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

CIVIC

SAT 13
Referendum Informational Meeting
GARRISON
11 a.m. Desmondfish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Learn more about a request to raise the library tax. Also, THURS 18, SAT 27.

MON 15
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza 845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 15
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St. 845-265-2500 | nelsonvillage.gov

TUES 16
Trustee Election and Budget Public Hearing
BEACON
7 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
by Nee Nee Rushie, plays music rooted in Jamaican reggae, ska and rocksteady. The Brighton Beat will open. The concert is part of the Peekskill Brewery Takeover Concert Series. Cost: $15

FRI 19
The Big Takeover
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St. | 914-479-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
This seven-piece band, fronted by Nee Nee Rushie, plays music rooted in Jamaican reggae, ska and rocksteady. The Brighton Beat will open. The concert is part of the Peekskill Brewery Takeover Concert Series. Cost: $15
Branching Out

Collective Brass, a chamber group comprised of members of the West Point Band, performed on April 6 at St. Joachim's Church in Beacon. The group, which formed in 2016, has a new album called In Thy Sweet Name, a collection of Renaissance songs arranged for brass, guitar and drums. See collectivebrass.com.

Photos by Ross Corsair

An Excursion to Kahlo

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www.hudsonbeachglass.com
Margot Kingon figured that raising her son in the Beacon area would be less fraught with worry than her own upbringing in Manhattan. That was not the case. After her son, Jameson, was born, Kingon found that maternal fears could find ways to sneak through the Highlands’ forest beds as easily as they might on pavement. But she also found that acknowledging those fears and processing them through her art let her hang some out to dry.

Kingon, who along with Catherine Welshman and George Mansfield will be exhibiting art at the Catalyst Gallery at 137 Main St. in Beacon through April 28, combines paint, ink and photography in her work, and many of her recent pieces involve placing a photograph of a silhouetted figure into various backgrounds on blocks of wood. “I am most interested in removing a subject from its environment and putting it into a new environment,” she explains.

She uses wood as a canvas because she has “never liked the whiteness of paper. The wood tone is like a neutral gray. I like the sturdiness, the heartiness of it.” She adds: “In some pieces you’ll notice line drawing: a ropey vine, maybe a mass of snarled-looking something? That’s drawn with ink. The newer pieces in this show have very little drawing but more intricate painting.”

After Jameson, who is now 12, came into the picture, Kingon said she grew concerned about losing her creativity to motherhood. “When I was pregnant I had a strong feeling that I wanted my son to know me as an artist,” she explains. “He would only know this if I was diligently doing it. I started doing pieces, and I stuck to it, using the time right after he went to sleep.”

New challenges arose after the baby became a toddler. “I thought, there’s my venturing boy, at the beginning stages of independence,” she recalls. “He has no idea of the monsters around him: slippery rocks, bullies, my own family demons. You need a way to exorcise those demons.”

Kingon recalls that when she started creating with wood she was “thinking a lot about the idea of a firm foundation — all the stuff that comes up when you have a child. I wanted to start with something solid, durable, not ethereal, so that no matter how awful the art came out, I couldn’t fault myself for the solid effort.”

Growing up in Manhattan, Kingon says, she “always did art.” She attended the High School of Music & Art and SUNY Purchase, hoping to become a photojournalist. After a stint as a studio assistant, she began a career in film and television as an electric and lighting technician. “There was a time in my life when I was focused on making my art my career,” Kingon says. “Now I like that I don’t rely on my art to support myself. My art has a rich life on its own. I’m trying to figure out how to work without deadlines. I love that my stuff goes out into the world and doesn’t collect dust, but to have to make a living at it makes me uneasy.”
By Brian PJ Cronin

Three months and 3,000 miles ago, I was sitting in a cabin filled with dozens of trail runners on an island in the Pacific Northwest.

It had taken me a few days to get here, and along the way, when I mentioned to anyone that I was from Beacon, they typically would stare at me blankly until I said, “It’s an hour and a half north of New York City.”

By contrast, when I told other trail runners where I was from, many immediately smiled.

“I’ve been to Beacon!” they said. “I went there to do the Breakneck Run.”

This Saturday, April 13, Red Newt Racing will put on the fourth annual Breakneck Point Trail Runs, a marathon and half-marathon that make their way through the steepest elevations in the Highlands.

Almost entirely by word-of-mouth, the run has gained a reputation as one of the most brutal and beautiful races around. Its co-director is Ben Drew, who lives in Cold Spring. He said the reason the race has become popular is its name.

“Going up Breakneck is a big draw,” he said. “You and I probably take it for granted, but going up for the first time during the race is spectacular, especially this time of the year when there aren’t any leaves on the trees.”

There’s also the bagpiper — this year it will be James Hartford, also of Cold Spring — who serenades runners as they ascend the first summit.

As great as the views and music are, you don’t get to experience them until you’ve done some serious climbing. That leads to the first reason for the race’s wide appeal: The extraordinary amount of “vert” (vertical gain) that runners must endure.

“Even though the highest points aren’t all that high, it’s relentless,” said Drew. “You’re going straight up or straight down the whole time.”

The most prestigious ultra-marathon in our area is the 50-Mile North Face Endurance Challenge at Bear Mountain, a race that Drew has run and will run again next month. The best trail runners in the country every year ascend and descend Bear Mountain and the highest, toughest trails throughout Harriman State Park for 6,880 feet of climbing.

And yet the Breakneck Marathon, with about half the distance, has between 8,000 and 10,000 feet of elevation. “For a marathon, that’s unheard of, especially on the East Coast,” Drew said.

Drew and the race’s other director, Ian Golden, tweak the course from year to year to have a road-accessible aid station every 5 or 6 miles. Mount Taurus (Bull Hill) will not be part of this year’s course because there weren’t enough volunteers to crew these stations, Drew said, so the majority of the run will be on the Dutchess side of the mountain.

Runners will begin at the University Settlement Camp in Beacon and head up Mount Beacon’s rocky south side to the fire tower, an infamous scramble nicknamed the Devil’s Ladder. It’s one of Drew’s favorite parts of the course. “You have these nice views, but it doesn’t have the cachet of Breakneck, so not a lot of people know about it or go up that way.”

From the fire tower, runners will head south along the ridge, dropping to Route 9D at the Wilkinson Trailhead before making the namesake climb. After summiting Breakneck, the course backtracks on the south of the ridge and returns to the Settlement Camp, where half-marathoners will put their feet up and crack open a beer while the rest of us ascend the Devil’s Ladder a second time.

For the second half of the marathon, the course turns north, hammering down the Mount Beacon Casino Trail and cutting over to Dry Brook Falls on the Pocket Road Trail. Runners will top out near The Pines and head up Fishkill Ridge for a loop around Lamb’s Hill and Bald Hill. It’s (mostly) downhill from there, passing the reservoir before dropping into Squirt Hollow and the finish line at Settlement Camp.

As in years past, Drew will be too busy to run the course himself, but he has invaluable advice for first-time participants. “The first few miles could be runnable, especially if you’re in good shape,” he said. “But if you do, you’re going to kill yourself before the big climbs.”
The Putnam resolution passed 8-1 in a contentious April 2 meeting of the legislature. Only Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and is the panel’s lone Democrat, voted against the measure. In a 4-0 vote on March 6, the Carmel Town Board also called for the RHA to be repealed.

The Putnam resolution cites research by a professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive science, stating:

“As reported by Diana Greene Foster of the University of California, San Francisco — the lead investigator of the largest-ever study of women seeking late-term abortions: 1) fetal abnormalities ‘make up a small minority of later abortions’; 2) abortions prompted by threats to the health of the mother are even rarer; and 3) women’s reasons for late-term abortions include many not related to rational conceptions of ‘health,’ including travel considerations, expense, indecision and disagreements with the father.”

After legislators on the Health Committee approved the resolution on March 18 and sent it to the full Legislature for consideration, Foster wrote to the Legislature “to correct a misrepresentation in my work.”

For one thing, her letter noted, the research excluded cases where women sought abortions because of a fetal anomaly or danger to the woman’s life. “So the data on why women seek later abortions cannot be used to determine the relative frequency” these reasons occur, she informed the legislators. Moreover, she wrote, the study focused on abortions in the 20th to 24th weeks of pregnancy, during the second trimester. The RHA particularly affects abortions in a later stage, the third trimester, she observed. “There is no evidence that women

(Continued on Page 21)
**Palm Sunday**

14th of April
8:00 AM Mass
10:30 AM Procession and Mass

**Maundy Thursday**

18th of April
7:00 PM Mass (Last Supper)
6:00 PM to Midnight: Eucharistic Watch

**Good Friday**

19th of April
12:00 PM Ecumenical Service
Reception Follows
with Traditional “Hot Cross Buns”

**Holy Saturday**

20th of April
7:00 PM Easter Vigil Service
Reception in the Hall Follows the Vigil

**Easter Sunday**

21st of April
10:30 AM Festive Mass
The Children’s Easter Egg Hunt
Following the 10:30 Mass

Corner of Routes 9D & 301 in Cold Spring (845) 285-2539
WWW.STMARYSCOLDSPRING.ORG

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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? Michael and Melinda Moyer of Cold Spring shared this shot of Henry with their daughter, Josephine, who is now 4. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

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**Crocus**

By Raven Howell

No special scent
Nor frilly flair
No graceful length
From earth still bare
No hint of pride
Or zingy zoom
No bees hover
Cool days gloom,
Yet every year
It wins the race
First sign of spring,
An honored place.

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**Clipping & Save**

Poem in Your Pocket Day, an annual event that began in 2002 as part of National Poetry Month, is Thursday, April 18. If you don’t have a favorite poem, here’s one to clip and carry. It’s by Raven Howell, a children’s author and poet from Cold Spring.

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Ballot (from Page 1)

term and Friensda his second, 4-year term. Town Justice Stephen Tomann also will run unopposed as a Republican for his seventh, 4-year term. Tomann has not had an opponent since winning the position in a three-way race in 1995.

Farrell was appointed to the Town Board in January to complete the term of Nancy Montgomery, who was elected to the Putnam County Legislature. Flaherty also joined the Town Board by appointment, in 2015, to fill a vacancy created when Dave Merandy was elected as Cold Spring’s mayor. Flaherty was elected that fall, a 4-year term.

In Putnam County, District Attorney Robert Tendy, a Republican elected in 2015, will have no Democratic opponent, but Legislature Carl Albano, who represents Carmel and parts of Lake Carmel and Patterson and is seeking his fourth, 3-year term, will face a challenge from Democrat Rebecca Swan. Republicans will not face Democratic challengers for their second terms.

To appear on the November ballot, every candidate running on a party line had to meet an April 4 state deadline for filing nominating petitions. That’s earlier than in the past because the state Legislature this year passed a law that scheduled local, state and federal primary elections for an at-large seat. The other at-large member, he will give up his seat to run for mayor.

A third candidate for mayor, Terry Hockler, filed a petition with the two signatures required to appear on the Green Party line. The Beacon Democratic Committee has filed an objection that is pending with the Dutchess County Board of Elections.

On the City Council, incumbents Terry Nelson (Ward 1) and Jodi McCredo (Ward 3), both Democrats, have filed for re-election. John Rembert (Ward 2), also a Democrat, will not seek to retain his seat.

Nelson and McCredo will be joined on the ballot by first-time candidate Air Rhode (Ward 2), and Dan Aymar-Blair and Kelly Ellenwood, who are both running for the Ward 4 seat. The Ward 4 incumbent, Amber Grant, will be on the ballot for Kyriacou’s at-large seat. The other at-large member, George Mansfeld, has also filed to run for his sixth term.

Because none of the Phlipstov or Putnam County candidates are being challenged by a fellow party member, there will not be a primary in June for those positions.

In Cold Spring, where the election is non-partisan, candidates have until May 28 to file nominating petitions with the county Board of Elections. (Until this year, the village held its elections in March.) Dave Merandy has said he will seek a third, 2-year term, as have incumbent Trustees Fran Murphy and Marie Early, who are also running for their third terms. Former Trustee Chuck Hustis said he plans to challenge Merandy, who defeated Alison Anthoine in 2017 in a close race.

Beacon and Dutchess

By Jeff Simms

Two-time incumbent Randy Casale and longtime City Council member Lee Kyriacou will face off in November in the race for mayor.

Casale has filed nominating petitions to run on the Independence Party and Republican ballot lines; Kyriacou is a Democrat and also will appear on the Working Families line.

Casale, a former highway superintendent and City Council member, was elected to his first 4-year term as mayor in 2011. Kyriacou was elected to the council in 1993 and, with two breaks, is in his ninth term. He was first elected as the Ward 2 representative but for most of his tenure has been one of two at-large members. He will give up his seat to run for mayor.

A third candidate for mayor, Terry Hockler, filed a petition with the two signatures required to appear on the Green Party line. The Beacon Democratic Committee has filed an objection that is pending with the Dutchess County Board of Elections.

On the City Council, incumbents Terry Nelson (Ward 1) and Jodi McCredo (Ward 3), both Democrats, have filed for re-election. John Rembert (Ward 2), also a Democrat, will not seek to retain his seat.

Nelson and McCredo will be joined on the ballot by first-time candidate Air Rhodes (Ward 2), and Dan Aymar-Blair and Kelly Ellenwood, who are both running for the Ward 4 seat. The Ward 4 incumbent, Amber Grant, will be on the ballot for Kyriacou’s at-large seat. The other at-large member, George Mansfeld, has also filed to run for his sixth term.

Because there are two Democratic candidates for Ward 4, a primary election will be held between Aymar-Blair and Ellenwood on June 25. Ellenwood also filed a petition for the Independence Party line, so, regardless of the primary result, she will appear on that line on the November ballot for the Ward 4 seat.

The other six Democratic candidates — Nelson, McCredo, Rhodes, Aymar-Blair, Grant and Mansfeld — will appear on the Working Families line, as well.

On the Republican side, the two candidates have filed petitions to run for City Council. Andrew Gauza, who ran unsuccessfully in 2017, will pursue the Ward 3 seat and Estefano Rendon, a newcomer, will be on the ballot for an at-large seat. Gauza also filed Independence and Conservative party petitions.

In the Dutchess County Legislature, both Democratic incumbents from Beacon — Frits Zemnik in District 16 and Nick Page in District 18 — have filed for re-election for their second, 2-year terms. Both also will appear on the Working Families line.

Republican Michael Justice, a Beacon resident, filed to challenge Page on the Republican and Conservative party lines.

Zemnik does not run.

Voters who are not registered must do so by May 31 to participate in the June primary and by Oct. 11 for the general election.

At the federal level, although the election will not take place until November 2020, Republican Chele Farley announced plans this week to run to represent the 18th District in the House of Representatives, a seat held by Democrat Sean Patrick Maloney. Farley, who vowed on Facebook to fight the “wave of socialism that is taking over Washington,” challenged Kirsten Gillibrand last year for her Senate seat but lost by a wide margin.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.
Easter Beauty

Paula Holt led a class at the Garrison Art Center on March 30 in which students used beeswax to inscribe eggshells in a Ukrainian tradition known as psyanky.

Photos by Ross Corsair
Abortion seeking abortions in the third trimester are just like those in the second trimester,” Foster noted.

She also told the legislators that her study’s results “strongly indicate that the well-being of women, children and families is strengthened when women are able to terminate unwanted pregnancies, consistent with the intentions of the Reproductive Health Act.”

Foster told The Current on Wednesday (April 10), that neither the county Legislature nor any legislators responded to her letter or acknowledged receiving it. While Foster’s study was published in 2013, she said that only recently has it been cited in anti-abortion arguments.

Foster’s letter of protest was not mentioned during the April 2 meeting of the Legislature, nor was it included in backup material provided to the public and press. The backup also did not include an 11-page memo written by Firriolo to rebut Montgomery’s March 18 critique of the resolution. The Current has requested that memo under the Freedom of Information Law.

The Putnam resolution also cites data compiled by the Guttmacher Institute that “at least 12,000 late-term abortions take place every year in the United States,” claiming that “almost none of which are done out of medical necessity.”

That figure comes from a study by the institute using 2014 data that estimated 1.3 percent of 926,200 abortions that year took place after 21 weeks, which would be during or after the second trimester. However, the institute did not discuss the reasons for late-term abortions. Instead, it cited a 2005 study that said of all women who receive abortions, 89 percent of which take place in the first 12 weeks, about three-quarters said they could not afford a child or were not ready to become a mother.

Further, the Putnam resolution says the RHA has allowed “violent criminal acts to go unpunished,” citing two recent cases in which pregnant women were stabbed. In Queens, the resolution said, a prosecutor was “unable to charge a violent assailant with the stabbing death of a woman’s unborn baby” and in the Bronx, a prosecutor “was forced to drop criminal charges against a violent assailant who stabbed a woman who survived but tragically killed her unborn baby.”

In the Queens case, Anthony Hobson was accused of stabbing to death his former girlfriend, who was 14 weeks pregnant, on Feb. 3. He was charged with second-degree murder. Because the RHA removed abortion from the criminal code, the prosecutor said he could not justify a separate charge of “second-degree abortion.”

In the Bronx case, Oscar Alvarez was accused of stabbing his fiancée, who was 26 weeks pregnant. She survived but her fetus did not. Alvarez was charged with attempted murder and second-degree abortion, although it’s not clear if the latter charge has been dropped.

In March, State Sen. Pamela Helming, a Republican, in Albany introduced a bill that would establish the crime of “assault on a pregnant individual,” whether the fetus is harmed or not. The bill’s co-sponsors include Sue Serino, a Republican, whose district includes the Highlands.

Foster said that neither the county Legislature nor any legislators responded to her letter or acknowledged receiving it.
WANTED

FARM APPRENTICE & CREW — Glynwood Center is seeking 2 positions for our summer vegetable team. For descriptions, see glynwood.org. Send resume and cover letter to jobs@glynwood.org. Indicate the position you are applying for in the subject line. We hire without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, HIV status, veteran status or any other protected characteristic. All are encouraged to apply.

PT MANAGEMENT JOB — Small environmental and recreational nonprofit working to keep Hudson River clean and provide safe swimming opportunities is looking for an administrator. We are 20 years old, proven track record, good fiscal health and strong, active and experienced volunteer board. For description: http://riverpool.org/employment/management.htm

BLOOD DONORS — Thursday, May 2, from 2 to 8 p.m at Our Lady of Loretto Parish Hall, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring. Walk-ins always welcome. Bring donor card or ID with photo or signature. Eat well and drink fluids before you donate.

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Obituary

Gwen Nerrie (1919-2019)

Gwendolen Ruth Nerrie, 99, of Beacon, and a native of Chester, England, died April 4, 2019. She was featured in a comic by Deb Lukce in the Oct. 5 issue of The Current (highlandscurrent.org/gwen-nerrie).

Gwen was born on April 30, 1919, the daughter of Robert and Emily Evans. She emigrated to Beacon following World War II, married Capt. Irving Nerrie (whom she met while serving with the British High Command Hospital Unit near Liverpool), and worked at Nerrie Pharmacy.

She was a longtime volunteer, teaching Sunday School at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, coordinating the Grey Ladies at St. Francis Hospital, managing the lunch program at the Salvation Army, and, more recently, working the Welcome Table Soup Kitchen at the First Presbyterian Church and at the Beacon Reads bookstore operated by the Friends of the Howland Public Library.

She also hosted toastmistress’ evening events, as well as “I would like them to say nice things about me while I’m alive” wakes during the past few years.

Gwen is survived by her son, Dr. Brian Nerrie (Suzanne) of Colonial Heights, Virginia, and five grandchildren: Travis Nerrie (Lindsay) of Washington, D.C., and Erik Nerrie (Kelsey) of Los Angeles, and the three children of her late daughter, Judith Ann Tengen: Cheryl Sundhuv (David), Denise Garcia (Ben) and Stacy Tengen. She also is survived by four great-grandchildren.

Gwen’s body was donated at her request to New York Medical College. Memorial donations may be made to the Howland Public Library, 313 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508 (beaconlibrary.org) and the First Presbyterian Church, 50 Liberty St., Beacon, NY 12508 (beaconpresbychurch.org).

See highlandscurrent.org/classifieds

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See highlandscurrent.org/classifieds

S E R V I C E D I R E C T O R Y
The Highlands Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

**Saturday**
75/50
Intervals of clouds and sunshine
POP: 10%
SW 6-12 mph
RealFeel 79/48

**Sunday**
64/55
Cloudy and cooler; a touch of afternoon rain
POP: 65%
NE 4-8 mph
RealFeel 63/49

**Monday**
69/44
Rain tapering to a couple of showers
POP: 50%
SW 8-16 mph
RealFeel 67/34

**Tuesday**
58/41
Partly sunny and cooler
POP: 5%
WNW 10-20 mph
RealFeel 65/40

**Wednesday**
58/42
Clouds and sunshine
POP: 15%
NE 4-8 mph
RealFeel 65/40

**Thursday**
61/50
Cloudy, a couple of showers possible in the p.m.
POP: 30%
SE 6-12 mph
RealFeel 59/41

**Friday**
67/46
Cloudy with rain possible
POP: 35%
SSE 10-20 mph
RealFeel 64/36

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**SUN & MOON**

- **Sunrise Sat., 4/13**: 6:20 AM
- **Sunset Sat. night, 4/13**: 7:34 PM
- **Moonrise Sat., 4/13**: 12:47 AM
- **Moonset Sat., 4/13**: 2:56 AM

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**Pop Pollen**

- **Source**: National Allergy Bureau
- **Grass**: Moderate
- **Weeds**: Absent
- **Trees**: Low
- **Molds**: High

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**CrossCurrent**

By King Features

**ACROSS**

1. Recipe meas.
4. Lapidary’s supply
8. Help a hood
12. Weeding tool
13. Laugh-a-minute
14. Pianist Peter
15. “— Town”
16. Taj Mahal city
17. Right on the map?
18. Including the latest info
21. Household member
22. Welcome sight?
23. Certain card
26. Chaps
27. Praise in verse
30. Author Wister
31. Prickly plant part
32. Old woman’s home?
33. Longing
34. Predicament
35. Grandfather, for one
36. “Oh yeah? — who?”
37. Prompt
38. Suspensefully timed out
39. Trail behind
40. Busy one
42. Cruising
43. Having clients
44. Between jobs
47. Passel
48. New Balance competitor
49. Entanglement

**DOWN**

1. Grand
2. First course, often
3. Saucy
4. Tool used on cheese
5. Two cubed
6. Extra
7. Speak haltingly
8. Concerning
9. Suitor
10. Formerly, formerly
11. Pledge-drive gift
12. Admitting clients
13. Author Fleming
14. Bliss
15. Discoverer’s cry
16. Barbie’s friend
17. Silent
18. Discoverer’s cry
19. Have bills
20. Author Fleming
21. Admitting clients
22. Monkeys
23. Sinister
24. Have bills
25. Barbie’s friend
26. Silent
27. Discoverer’s cry
28. Dopey pal?
29. “A mouse!”
30. Author Wister
31. Rocket launcher
32. Passel
33. Longing
34. Predicament
35. Grandfather, for one
36. “Oh yeah? — who?”
37. Prompt
38. Suspensefully timed out
41. Type measures
42. Type measures
43. Wander
44. Early birds?

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**Beacon Softball Preview**

By Skip Pearlman

**SOFTBALL**

The squad took a 9-5 loss at Fox Lane on Monday (April 8) and then was rained out in the third inning of its game against Hendrick Hudson on Tuesday with the Bulldogs leading 13-5.

In the Fox Lane game, senior captain Kamryn Haran took the loss on the mound for the Bulldogs (1-4). At the plate, senior leftfielder Mia Muscat went 2-for-3 and drove in a run, junior Sierra Lassiter went 2-for-4 with a double and two RBI, Mia Ricottilli went 3-for-4, and senior catcher Eisley Gebman was 2-for-4.

“Everyone had one hit, so it was a good day offensively,” said Coach Brian Antalek.

Last year’s team finished 11-11 and lost in the first round of the playoffs to eventual Section 1 champion Ardsley.

The captains this season for the Bulldogs are Haran, Muscat, DaVonia LaMar (who is injured) and junior Trista Maloney. Also returning are senior Olivia Dean, sophomore Kelly Murphy, and juniors Hannah Aliferi and Kyrstin Lawrence.

Haran will do most of the pitching. “She doesn’t let game situations get to her, whether we are struggling defensively, or if she’s having a tough day,” Antalek said.

“We’re also expecting a lot from Muscat, a third-year varsity player, our No. 3 hitter, and a great defender. She keeps the girls loose.”

Antalek is hoping his team can return to the playoffs.

“We’re hoping for at least 10 wins,” he said. “We have it in us to make a run in the sectionals. It’s not how you start — it’s more how you finish.”

The Bulldogs will host their Dawgfest Tournament at Beacon High School and Memorial Park on Monday and Tuesday.

**BASEBALL**

The squad is off to a strong start, with only one loss in five contests.

After a tough, one-run loss to Brewster on Monday, the Bulldogs rebounded with a 6-0 victory over league rival Hendrick Hudson on Tuesday at Dutchess Stadium and a 12-2 drubbing of previously unbeaten Nanuet on Wednesday.

In the win over Nanuet, Mike Lepere hit his first career homer, went 2-for-3 at the plate, and drove in four runs for Beacon (3-1-1). Jayen Lare drove in two runs and also went 2-for-3, and Kai Jacketti and Nick Lepere each had two hits.

Besim Dika picked up the victory on the mound in his first varsity start, going four innings and allowing one earned run while striking out four. Nick Lepere pitched the final two innings to earn a save, striking out two.

“Dika threw a lot of first-pitch strikes, had a good curve and change. He made a good debut,” said Manager Bob Atwell.

A day earlier, senior righthander Joe DeCandia threw five innings, striking out four batters and allowing only three hits in a shutout of the Sailors. He is now 2-0. Lare earned a save in relief.

“DeCandia has been overcoming an injury, and also had to pitch around the rain,” Atwell said.

At the plate, Mike Lepere and Lare each tripled, and Dillon Kelly and Nick Lepere had RBI singles. Dika and Shane Green also each had an RBI.

This year’s team returns a solid core from last year’s 13-9 squad that lost in the sectional quarterfinals. “We have a great combination of experience and quality underclassmen,” Atwell said.

DeCandia, an All-Section pitcher and infielder, leads a group of seniors that includes All-League catcher Andrew Schneider, Lare (who also plays shortstop), outfielder Mike Manzoello and Nick Lepere (who also plays outfield).

“DeCandia and Lare are two of our top pitchers,” Atwell said. “Lare has pitched nine scoreless innings to start the season, so he’s off to a great start. Both of them pound the zone.”

The Bulldogs are scheduled to visit Nyack on Saturday, April 13, before hosting the three-day Spring Bash Tournament starting Monday.