Mixed Reviews on Mug Shot Ban

Some police chiefs argue vague law gives discretion

By Michael Turton

A newly enacted state law that forbids police departments from releasing mug shots after an arrest is receiving mixed reviews from law enforcement agencies.

The law, signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo on April 12 as part of the 2019-20 state budget, prohibits police from releasing “booking information about an individual, including booking photographs, unless public release of such information will serve a specific law-enforcement purpose,” such as “disclosure of a photograph to alert victims or witnesses to come forward to aid in a criminal investigation.”

According to the governor’s office, the law specifically targets online sites that post mug shots and demand payment for their removal.

Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. said he believes the vague wording of the law regarding exceptions for “law-enforcement purposes” allows him discretion and that his office will continue to release the mug shots of people who are arrested.

(Continued on Page 6)
FIVE QUESTIONS: GRETCHEN DYKSTRA

By Alison Rooney

Gretchen Dykstra, of Cold Spring, is the author of Civic Pioneers: Local Stories from a Changing America, 1895-1915. She will read from the book at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, at Split Rock Books on Main Street.

Many of your public servants, such as a postal clerk who became the police chief of Berkeley, California, or an advocate for Native American children in Oklahoma, are obscure. How did you find them?

I didn’t look for “the first” or “the best.” I wanted to find creative and effective people who had dramatic personal stories. Most of these people had national reputations that were lost to history. I read a lot, and one person led to another. My teacher for two-and-a-half years, [journalist and writer] Bill Zinsser, told me, “You have to hit the road,” so I did. I visited historical societies and the like.

What made you choose these particular decades?

We think of our own era as having tremendous changes, most of which are related to computers. But there were so many things for people to adjust to in the Progressive period. I have a friend who is a political scientist who noted this was when local government became active government.

Did you uncover any common threads among your subjects?

They were all intellectually curious. They all had grit and perseverance and were committed to whatever it was they were advocating. They had different interests and political backgrounds but were all mission-driven.

A number of your stories are set in Chicago. Was it more progressive than most cities?

Yes. A number of things developed there, such as the Chicago Women’s Club, which evolved from offering friendship and counsel to a focus on practical helpfulness, particularly in relation to health, education and child welfare. Then there was Hull House and the University of Chicago. They enrolled women as graduate students and took the attitude of “We will compete with the northeastern elite institutions, but we will make it practical.”

You were founding president of the Times Square Business Improvement District. Did that experience provide insight on these people who lived a century ago?

Definitely. With Times Square, our task was clear: Make it clean, safe and friendly. You don’t take on all of that at once, and you don’t take it on by yourself. Each of the people in the book identified a problem, then asked: “How do I solve it?”

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NEWS BRIEFS

Driver Killed in Philipstown Crash
New Hampshire man dies in Route 9 collision

A New Hampshire man was killed in an auto crash on Route 9 north of Route 301 in Philipstown on Saturday (April 13), according to the New York State Police. Police said they responded at about 6:20 a.m. to a report of an accident after a 2018 Dodge Challenger driven northbound by Isaiah Byars, 25, of Derry, New Hampshire, entered the southbound lane for an unknown reason and struck a southbound 2015 Jeep Cherokee.

Byars was pronounced dead at the scene, police said. The driver of the Jeep Cherokee was transported by the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps to Westchester Medical Center.

Entergy Plans to Sell Indian Point After Shutdown
New owner will handle storage of used fuel

Entergy Corp., which owns the Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan that is scheduled to close within the next two years, has agreed to sell the structure after shutdown to a company that specializes in decommissioning nuclear plants. The sale includes the transfer of the licenses, spent fuel, decommissioning liabilities and Nuclear Decommissioning Trusts for the plant's three units.

Entergy said in a statement that it expects Holtec to decommission Indian Point decades sooner than if Entergy retained ownership. It said Holtec will transfer used nuclear fuel to dry fuel storage systems on reinforced concrete pads that will remain under guard until Entergy removes them or Holtec completes a proposed storage facility in New Mexico.

Indian Point Unit 2 and Unit 3 are scheduled to be shut down by April 30, 2021, as part of an agreement with New York State. Unit 1 was shut down in 1974.

Deaths, 2018

The Putnam County Coroner’s Office investigates any death that appears to be due to criminal violence or neglect, suicide, overdoses or accident or that appears suspicious, unusual or unexplained. It also investigates instances in which a person died alone and deaths that occur in institutions. The county has three elected coroners (to ensure 24/7 coverage), who each serve four-year terms. They are paid $176 to $180 per day. Below is a breakdown of the 71 rulings the coroner’s office made in 2018.

- 34 died of natural causes
- 18 died of overdoses
- 12 died in accidents
- 6 died by suicide
- 1 cause of death undetermined

You’re Invited to the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce 2019 Annual Business Awards Dinner!”

Please join the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce to celebrate our distinguished 2019 Chamber Award Winners.

- James G. Lovell Community Award
- Sustainable Business Award
- Collaboration of the Year Award
- "People’s Choice" Award Nominees

- "People’s Choice" Award for New Business of the Year
- "People’s Choice" Award for Silver Business of the Year (25+ yrs in business)

RSVP: https://tinyurl.com/yd7zsp8l
VOTE for the "People’s Choice" nominees here: https://tinyurl.com/yd7zsp8l

Kids: Draw Your Mother For Mother’s Day!

Submit a scan of your drawing (300dpi) to editor@highlandscurrent.org. Include your name and your mom’s name, and where you live.

You also can mail the drawing to 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516 or drop it off and we will scan it for you. (Write the info and your address on the back so we can return it.)

In our May 10 issue, we will publish kids’ drawings or paintings of their moms.

The deadline is Tuesday, May 7.
Library request

As a trustee of the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison, I’d like to thank The Highlands Current for its coverage of the May 21 referendum (“Desmond-Fish to Ask for Tax Increase,” April 5). As the article noted, the library will be asking for an overall increase in taxpayer support from $75,000 per year to $300,000 per year. Some context might be helpful.

Most libraries in New York receive 80 percent or more of their funding from taxpayers. The Desmond-Fish Public Library, in contrast, receives less than 20 percent of its funding from taxes. That leaves 80 percent of the library’s funding subject to forces outside its control, such as the vagaries of the stock market that affects both the value of the library’s endowment and the ability and willingness of library patrons to make private donations.

The library’s board decided to ask for an amount that will enable the library to meet the expressed requests of our community. That financial need is for ongoing, sustainable public support equal to about 45 percent of our annual budget of $660,000. The rest will still come from private sources.

The amount requested in this referendum equals a tax of 64 cents per $1,000 of the assessed value of a homeowner’s property. The assessed value, in turn, is calculated at 47 percent of the estimated market value of the property.

So, for example, owners of a home that is assessed at $300,000 (which means that its estimated market value is $638,000) would pay $194 per year, or 53 cents per day. Owners of a home assessed at $500,000 (which means that its estimated market value is $1.087 million) would pay $320 per year, or 78 cents per day.

The staff and trustees of the Desmond-Fish Public Library are committed to transparency and openness. We have posted our budget, a detailed explanation and FAQs at dflibrary.org. We welcome questions and invite the public to attend information sessions scheduled at the library for Saturday, April 27, at 11 a.m.; Thursday, May 7, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, May 18, at 11 a.m. Elizabeth Anderson, Garrison

Abortion resolution

The resolution the Putnam County Legislature calling for the state Reproductive Health Act to be overturned appears to have been drafted without consultation from county health officials, doctors or anyone with expertise, and without regard for facts or scientific research (“Researcher Says Resolution Twisted Her Findings,” April 12).

Research by Diane Greene Foster, whose study is cited and misrepresented in the resolution, has overwhelmingly found that the traditional justifications for restrictions on abortion are not supported by evidence. In one study, she found that “women who have an abortion are not more likely than those denied the procedure to have depression, anxiety, or suicidal ideation” and that “95 percent of women report that having the abortion was the right decision for them over five years after.”

Her study cited in the resolution concluded that “denying women access to wanted abortions has negative effects on their physical health, economic well-being and the health and development of their existing children.”

In light of the resolution’s serious omission of facts, the Legislature should be embarrassed to send it to Albany. Instead, it should be revoked or annulled or, at the very least, amended to remove any reference to Foster’s research and put up for another vote. The Legislature should also apologize to Foster.

The resolution is rooted in promoting disinformation, patently false caricatures of women who have had to make the deeply personal and difficult decision to have an abortion—a decision that at least five of the eight legislators who voted in favor of the resolution never have made and never will have to make.

Jordan Bailey-Hoover, Southeast

Bailey-Hoover is president of Putnam Young Democrats.

Foiled robbery

In the case last month where two men shoved a homeowner back inside his house, just the sight of his firearm caused the perpetrators to retreat (“Cold Spring Resident Says He Foiled Robbery,” April 12).

This event occurred less than a year after the Philipstown Town Board passed a law mandating “safe storage” of firearms. The original draft would have required gun owners to keep their firearms secured in a safe or with a trigger lock at all times in the home. The proposal violated the Second Amendment, in addition to common sense, and in its final form, the law states only that gun owners must secure their weapons in a safe or with a trigger lock if they are not home and children are or may be present.

The language of the law did no more than state what gun owners have done in Philipstown throughout history; there has never been an accident involving a gun here. But this dangerous and potentially deadly incident that occurred in the sleepy little community of Cold Spring serves as an example of why the right to protect oneself in the home is inalienable. Had the gun-storage law as originally proposed been enacted, the incident described above may have had a very different ending.

Cindy Trimble, Cold Spring

Danskammer

Gov. Andrew Cuomo should see through the Danskammer developer’s deceptive claims that New York needs a new fracking

(Continued on Page 5)

The city of Beacon, an environmental justice community that has water front vulnerable to sea-level rise, also should not be fooled. If the proposed expansion is accepted, more fracked gas will be burned, the community’s air and water will be polluted, and the local area will be locked into more fossil fuel use for at least another 30 years.

The city of Beacon, local elected officials and Cuomo must see Danskammer and the local area will be locked into more fracked gas will be burned, the power of many of these individuals. The New York Times recently ran a piece revealing the fundraising “circuit” that happens in Albany during the legislative session. Lobbyists pay their way into fundraisers, allowing them to give their pitch to lawmakers on bills that may be voted on the next day. I have introduced bill A5950 in the Assembly that would eliminate this practice by banning fundraising within a 15-mile radius of Albany while we are in session. This would ensure that the concerns of New Yorkers are not drowned out by special interests when lawmakers cast their vote.

Another important reform being discussed in Albany is public financing of campaigns. Public financing would limit the amount candidates can take from wealthy donors, and match small donations with public funds. By matching small donations, voters who contribute small sums are put on a more equal footing with wealthy donors.

I am hosting a community forum on public financing on Thursday, May 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Croton Library to discuss this proposal in more detail. I look forward to a robust conversation about how this measure would impact New York.

Sandy Galef, Albany

Galef is a longtime member of the state Assembly whose district includes Philipstown.

Correction

In “Energy Collective Reaches Tipping Point” (April 12), we misidentified one of the six municipalities that has signed on to be part of the Hudson Valley Energy Community Choice Aggregation program. The municipality is Marbletown, not Marlboro. In addition, when the CCA reaches an agreement with an energy supplier, the contract will be between the supplier and Joule Community Power, which will administer the program for Hudson Valley Energy.

**LETTERS AND COMMENTS**

(Continued from Page 4)

Santosh Nandabal, Brooklyn Nandabal is the New York organizer for Food & Water Watch.

**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
OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN
Dated: April 5, 2019
Theresa Crawley, Deputy Town Clerk

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Town of Philipstown
Town Hall
PO Box 155
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516

Separate sealed bids for the Horton Road Abutment Repair Project will be received by the Town of Philipstown at the office of the Town Clerk, PO Box 155, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516 until 11:00 o’clock AM local prevailing time on Thursday, May 2, 2019 and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

A prebid meeting will be held at 10:00 o’clock AM local prevailing time on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at Philipstown Town Hall.

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other contract documents may be examined at the following location:

Office of the Town Clerk, PO Box 155, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516

Copies may be obtained at the office of the Town Clerk located at 238 Main Street upon payment of $25.00 for each set. Any unsuccessful bidder or non-bidder shall be entitled to a refund of this payment in accordance with Section 102 of the General Municipal Law upon the return of such sets in good condition as determined by the Town.

Each bid shall be accompanied by acceptable form of Bid Guarantee in an amount equal to at least five (5) percent of the amount of the Bid payable to the Owner as a guarantee that if the Bid is accepted, the Bidder will execute the Contract and file acceptable Performance and Payment Bonds within ten (10) days after the award of the Contract.

OWNER RIGHTS RESERVED:

The Town of Philipstown, hereinafter called the OWNER, reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any irregularity or technicality in any Bid in the interest of the Owner.

**STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION:**

Bidders on the Contracts are required to execute a non-collusion bidding certificate pursuant to Section 103d of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

The Town of Philipstown hereby notifies all Bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in regard to any Contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to equal employment opportunity and all other Federal, New York State and local requirements.

Attention of bidders is called to the requirement that all employees engaging in work on the project under the subject contracts must be paid prevailing wages as recited in the proposed contract documents. Bidders are required to comply with minimum wage rates and legally required workplace conditions, and must comply with the provisions of Section 291-299 of the Executive Law of the State of New York.

As required by New York State Finance Law § 139-U, Bidders are required to submit the following statement subscribed by the Bidden and affirmed by the Bidden as true under the penalty of perjury: “By submission of this Bid, the Bidden and each person signing on behalf of the Bidden certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that the Bidden has and has implemented a written policy addressing sexual harassment prevention in the workplace and provides annual sexual harassment prevention training to all of its employees. Such policy meets the minimum requirements of section two hundred one-g of the Labor Law.” If a Bidder cannot make the foregoing certification, such Bidder shall so state and shall furnish with the Bid a signed affidavit setting forth in detail the reasons therefor.

No Bidder may withdraw his bid within 45 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Dated:  April 5, 2019

Theresa Crawley, Deputy Town Clerk

**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
OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN
Dated: April 5, 2019
Theresa Crawley, Deputy Town Clerk
Dutchess Legislature (from Page 1)
day morning,” he said. “But for a small cabal of hardware store owners to get together and exert their political will on a legislature and mandate that all hardware stores close on Saturday mornings would amount to a minority putting its foot on the necks of anybody who wants to do things differently.”

Ethics code
The Legislature voted 22-2 on April 8 to update its ethics code to require countywide candidates and certain employees to complete financial disclosure forms; ban elected officials from requiring employees to do political work; compel elected officials to disclose outside income; give more power to the Board of Ethics; and to streamline the recusal process when a conflict of interest arises. The changes will go into effect in 2020. Zernike and Nick Page both voted no.

Before the vote on April 8, each legislator explained why he opposed the measure, despite bipartisan revisions. “I don’t think that having this more granular financial disclosure form is likely to have an impact beyond possibly having a discouraging effect on civic participation,” Page said. “We have seen the county executive’s disregard for the current form, and the county attorney says they won’t be FOILable [under the Freedom of Information Law] except under extraordinary circumstances.

“It’s not clear the Board of Ethics is prepared to be an effective backstop for forms that contain significant omissions or misrepresentations no matter what form we are using,” he added. “I don’t think this is a sincere effort for ethics reform, but more of a PR [public relations] play.”

Zernike said he felt the proposal was too complicated in its “attempt to be exhaustive. I would prefer we adopt something simpler and more elegant,” such as “having a simple standard of avoiding the appearance of impropriety,” which would allow each individual to apply his or her own “smell test.”

Term limits
The Legislature voted unanimously to impose 12-year term limits on the Dutchess County executive, legislators and the county comptroller. The county executive will be limited to three, 4-year terms while legislators will be limited to six, 2-year terms. The county comptroller will be allowed to serve three, 4-year terms.

Solar-energy growth
The Legislature voted unanimously to allow the Dutchess Department of Planning and Development to create a reserve fund for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PL-LOT) agreements related to solar-energy systems. The funds, which will be managed by the county finance commissioner, will provide incentives for green business initiatives after consultation with the Climate Smart Communities Task Force.

Opioid treatment
The Legislature unanimously amended the county budget to add a $44,000 state grant to treat opioid users who enter the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center with extended release injectable naltrexone, a once-monthly treatment used to prevent relapses. The program also will connect individuals with continuing medication and therapy upon release.

Job well done
The Legislature commended Piko, a K9 officer who retired from the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Department last year after a long career during which police said he was responsible for numerous finds and apprehensions and was routinely utilized by other law-enforcement agencies. Legislators wished him well in his future endeavors.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.
Nelsonville Adopts $325,000 Budget

Board addresses matters of fish and flags as well as finances

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville’s newly reconstituted Village Board dealt with finances, fish and flags at its formal monthly meeting on Monday (April 15).

The board consists of three members elected in March: Mayor Chris Caccamise (formerly a trustee) and Trustees Lisa Mechaley and Dove Pedlosky. They join incumbent Trustees Michael Bowman and Dave Moroney.

The board members voted unanimously to adopt a budget of $325,378 for fiscal 2019-20. The new budget, which takes effect on June 1, includes about $5,000 more spending than the current year, an increase of 1.5 percent.

The budget anticipates the village will collect about $285,000 in property taxes; $4,600 from licenses, permits and fees; $12,000 in rent from the old firehouse used by the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department; and $10,000 in state aid.

Expenses include about $135,000 to fund the village governance, including $10,600 for trustee salaries ($2,650 each) and the mayor’s $4,500 pay; $34,000 for the village clerk; $24,000 in employee benefits; $15,500 for building needs; $2,000 for records management; and $29,500 for legal expenses.

The latter are comprised of $10,500 for the village attorney and $19,000 for other attorney services, compared to the total of $15,000 budgeted for 2018-19. According to Village Clerk Mindy Jesek, the increased allocation stems from ongoing concern about lawsuits that followed the village’s denial of a permit for a cellphone tower.

The budget also provides about $42,000 for fire protection, paid to Cold Spring; $16,000 for street maintenance; $10,400 for snow removal; and $66,000 for trash collection.

The board plans to take $1,635 from its reserves to fill the gap between spending and revenue.

In other business, the board unanimously:

- Pledged $500 to the Nelsonville Fish & Fur Club’s Annual Kids’ Fish Derby, scheduled for May 5 at the Cold Spring reservoir on Fishkill Road.
- Approved the purchase of 15 American flags, at $37 each, to replace the tattered set along Main Street.
- Agreed to make Bowman deputy mayor and to re-appoint Bill Bujaraski as building inspector.
Lawmakers Speak Out Against Abortion Regulations

Critics: Changes limit options for low-income women

By Jeff Simms

While the Putnam County Legislature earlier this month condemned the state’s Reproductive Health Act as “authorizing infanticide,” lawmakers on the west side of the Hudson, including Jonathan Jacobson, whose district in the state Assembly includes Beacon, this week offered their support for the Title X Family Planning Program that funds reproductive health care for low-income people.

On May 3, the Trump administration will implement what it calls a “Protect Life Rule” and what Planned Parenthood and other activists refer to as a “gag rule” that will forbid doctors who receive funds from Title X (10) from telling patients how they can obtain an abortion.

According to Planned Parenthood, the rule will also make it impossible for women who visit clinics funded by Title X to obtain birth control or preventive care, and it will force doctors to give patients incomplete information about their health care options.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services last month announced the revised regulations for the program, which was created by Congress and signed into law by President Richard Nixon in 1970. The new rules, modeled after restrictions put in place by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 (that were reversed in 1993 by President Bill Clinton) provide funding for contraception but not for programs “where abortion is a method of family planning.”

Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley held a rally in Newburgh on Tuesday (April 16) to address the changing landscape for reproductive and sexual health care. The changes will prohibit the non-profit, which says it serves 52 percent of the patients in New York who seek care at Title X-funded health centers, from receiving federal funds because it advises patients on abortion, said Ruth-Ellen Blodgett, the president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley.

Many of the women Planned Parenthood serves through the program come from low-income families without health insurance, she noted. In addition to birth control, Title X provides funding for wellness exams, cancer screenings and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections.

“In addition to birth control, Title X provides funding for wellness exams, cancer screenings and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. Because of systemic inequities, many patients who rely on Title X for their health care needs are people of color, LGBTQ people, and people in rural areas, all of whom already face significant barriers to accessing health care,” the national office of Planned Parenthood said in a statement.

Jacobson said his position on Title X is simple. “I don’t think any politician should determine what a doctor says to his or her patient, or what a patient says to his or her doctor,” he said. The changes to the program have “nothing to do with health,” he said, but with “ideological practices” and an “agenda that they think will placate their political base.”

A number of other elected officials, including Newburgh Mayor Torrence Harvey and Orange County Legislator Kevin Luján, as well as community and religious leaders, also spoke.

The administration’s changes have been applauded by pro-life organizations, which see the moves as the president taking another step toward fulfilling his campaign promise to defund Planned Parenthood. Christina Fadden, the chair of New York State Right to Life, said Thursday that taxpayers’ money shouldn’t be used to direct women toward abortions. “Supreme Court rulings have confirmed that it is appropriate for governments to stay out of the abortion business, and they are not required to fund it,” she said.

But Shannon Wong, the director of the Lower Hudson Valley chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union, said on Tuesday that the new regulations are an assault on women’s rights.

“This might sound like it’s about budgets and funding and rules,” she said, “but this is an attack on women — an attack on women of color,” because many of the women who use Title X-funded services are minorities.
Hudson Valley Farms

(from Page 1)

four or five years.

Among the latest findings:

**The farms**
- There are about 2 million farms and ranches in the U.S, a decrease of 3 percent from 2012. The largest drop was in middle-sized farms; the average farm is 441 acres, up 1.6 percent.
- Dutchess has lost about 10,500 acres (from 2012). The largest drop was to 11) but gained a fruit farm (to 4). Each county lost two maple syrup farms. 11 percent in Putnam have been operating a farm for less than five years. Twenty percent of Dutchess farmers are 34 or younger; in Putnam, it’s 2 percent.
- The average tenure of a Dutchess farmer is 21 years, and in Putnam, 26 years.
- Dutchess farms employed 1,013 laborers in 2017, and Putnam, 217.
- The number of female farmers in the state and country increased by 27 percent, to 1,23 million. Dutchess has 351 farms where a woman is a principal decision-maker (e.g., what to plant, marketing, harvesting) and Putnam has 58.
- Eleven percent of farmers have served in the military. Dutchess has 73 farms where a veteran is a decision-maker, and Putnam has 17.
- The average age of farmers continues to rise; in Dutchess it is 57 years, and in Putnam, 61. Dutchess has 72 farms where a decision-maker is age 35 or younger; Putnam didn’t report any.

**The crops**
- Dutchess lost 12 farms that grew vegetables, dropping to 37, but gained seven growing fruit, to 36. Putnam lost two vegetable farms (dropping to 11) but gained a fruit farm (to 4). Each county lost two maple syrup farms.
- Dutchess farmers sold $59.5 million in agricultural and livestock products in 2017, while Putnam farmers sold $3.4 million.
- The value of food sold directly to consumers by Putnam farmers jumped 1,800 percent between 2012 and 2017, from $48,000 to $893,000. In Dutchess it rose by 38 percent, to $7.8 million.
- The average Dutchess farm had $71,000 in sales in 2017, down about 2 percent from 2012, while the average Putnam farm earned $35,342, down 22 percent from 2012.
- Dutchess farmers received a total of $242,000 in federal subsidies in 2017. Putnam’s total was not reported.
- The average annual production expense for a farm in Dutchess was $88,000, and in Putnam, $61,000.
- Organic farming continues to grow. The number of farms in Dutchess producing organic products jumped from 10 to 15, and sales rose about 10 times, from $410,000 annually to $4.5 million. In Putnam, the three farms that began selling organic since 2012 have total annual sales of $360,000.

For more, see our series A Growing Challenge: Farms and Food in the Hudson Valley, at highlandscurrent.org/farming.
Mug shots (from Page 6)

Beacon Police Chief Kevin Junjulas
Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr.

stated. Booking photos will still be made available in select circumstances, he said, such as when a person is missing or wanted.

Beacon Police Chief Kevin Junjulas said he has not yet decided how his department will respond. “I have a duty to follow the law, although I don’t necessarily agree with them all,” he said, adding he considers issues such as bail reform and legalization of marijuana more important than mug shots.

In Cold Spring, Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke declined to comment, saying he needed to review the law and consult with the village attorney.

In an email, a spokesman for the governor, Jason Conwall, wrote that the restrictions are designed to “help curtail the nefarious practice” by websites that post booking photos. Common sense would tell you that if you can see the face of the person who’s been charged during a public judicial proceeding, disclosure of the photograph of that person does not rise to the level of an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

He said a law that bans sites from requiring payment for the removal of mug shots “is a better way of dealing with the problem.”

Most New York residents appear to agree. According to poll by Siena College released on April 16, respondents by a 2-to-1 margin said the law was a bad idea. However, a number of criminal justice organizations have voiced support.

“Many Americans incorrectly assume that a ‘mug shot’ means that a person has committed a crime,” said the Legal Action Center, which is based in New York City and Washington, D.C., in a statement. “They don’t realize it is the first step in a process that often leads to charges being dropped or dismissed, or a verdict of ‘not guilty.’”

Mug shot websites are part of what he characterized as “an internet shaming industry.”

Fourteen states have passed laws banning mug shot sites from charging removal fees, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Besides New York, five states have laws restricting the release of booking photos.

Robert Freeman, executive director of the state Committee on Open Government, told the Utica Observer-Dispatch last week that his office has “advised for years and the courts agreed that mugshots are public. Common sense would tell you that if you can see the face of the person who’s been charged during a public judicial proceeding, disclosure of the photograph of that person does not rise to the level of an...
Behind the Scenes ... in the Forest

Scientists share technology helping them understand wildlife

By Alison Rooney

To study animals in the wild, researchers have recently embraced two new tools: radio telemetry and DNA tests. They join sensor-triggered “camera traps,” which have been around longer but are still highly useful.

On Sunday (April 14), three local scientists spoke at a community forum, “Wildlife Through the Hidden Lens: The Secret Lives of the Creatures Among Us,” organized by the Hudson Highlands Land Trust. The event, held at the Old VFW Hall in Cold Spring, was sold out.

Ed McGowan, a Garrison resident who is director of the Trailside Museums and Zoo at Bear Mountain State Park, said more camera traps are being installed by researchers and “citizen scientists” because their costs have fallen to around $50 each. DNA analysis is providing important information on species and their origins. “Studies which used to take six years now can be done in 20 minutes,” he said. And radio telemetry allows researchers to track the movement of animals such as turtles, moose and snakes using GPS, he said.

McGowan said recent projects in New York State parks have monitored piping plovers, a small bird which is “not doing well” in terms of maintaining its numbers; the small-whorled pogonia, the rarest plant in the state; and the decline of New England cottontail rabbits in Fahnestock State Park.

He also is taking part in a four-year project monitoring wintering golden eagles in the Highlands as part of a national survey on the birds. “We needed to figure out how many we have, so we got a roadkill deer, put it out in the forest and waited for cool things to happen,” he recalled. “First came the crows and ravens, during the day,” along with “black wolves” (coyotes). “At night Eastern coyotes circled the carcass, joined by bobcat, red fox, some intrepid raccoons, possum, mice, owls and golden eagles, which have 7-foot wingspans and massive talons.”

“We saw some strange bedfellows, like possums hanging around bobcats with impunity — maybe they don’t taste very good!” he said. “We saw deer investigating the carcass; maybe there were doing some forensic information gathering, but they didn’t eat it.”

Another project involved four years of study of black bears in the 47,000-acre Harriman State Park, he said. The researchers watched the bears but also recorded their scratchings on trees and analyzed their droppings. They were able to determine what the bears were eating and how they climbed trees to get food, and their ritualized behavior, like rubbing up against trees and “stomp walking” in depressions they had left in the ground.

They could also observe inter-species interaction, for instance between bobcats and bears, and “we got a lot of bear selfies,” McGowan said with a laugh. “Without this valuable footage,” he explained, “you’d never know there was a whole community of animals interacting. We thought there were about 50 bears [in Harriman] but learned there are more like 100. We’re not at capacity, but we’re getting there. We had about 20 cubs last year. Just 20 years ago we had young males but no females or cubs.”

McGowan said the cameras had not caught any mountain lions. “There are lots of sightings, but only one was legitimate, and that was of a mountain lion killed on the road in Connecticut,” he said. “He had traveled from South Dakota. There’s certainly no resident population here. Camera trap coverage isn’t complete enough to determine what the bears were eating and how they climbed trees to get food. We thought there were about 50 bears in Harriman, but learned there are more like 100. We’re not at capacity, but we’re getting there. We had about 20 cubs last year. Just 20 years ago we had young males but no females or cubs.”

McGowan said the cameras had not caught any mountain lions. “There are lots of sightings, but only one was legitimate, and that was of a mountain lion killed on the road in Connecticut,” he said. “He had traveled from South Dakota. There’s certainly no resident population here. Camera trap coverage isn’t complete enough to say there are none with certainty. But there are lots and lots of bobcats near us, and their numbers are on the rise.”

Scott LaPoint, a research scientist at Black Rock Forest, a conservation and research consortium in Cornwall, said his research combines data collection with spatial and statistical analyses to get an idea of how landscape facilitates the movement of animals.

He said he has focused on fishers, a carnivorous mammal that is similar to, but larger than, a weasel. “Fishers need forests,” he said. “They do an awful lot in trees. So the question is, ‘Are forests doing what we want them to?’”

The fisher was once found solely in the Adirondacks, and it was nearly wiped out during the fur trade, but is now doing well, he said. “Somehow populations are connecting through forests, which are supporting these once-rare animals,” he said. He hopes to document their distribution in the state through camera traps and other tools.

Next up was Brent Boscarno, a former high school science teacher now with the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, who shared sites such as ebird.org and inaturalist.org and apps such as Seek that allow citizen scientists to upload and share data.

“When these apps, you can take a photo, add an identification and observational details and they will give you suggestions of what you’re observing,” he explained. “Submit it, and someone will identify it for you.”
THE WEEK AHEAD

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

COMMUNITY
SAT 20
Green New Deal and the Climate Crisis
BEACON
10:30 a.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
Science journalist Andy Revkin will speak at this community forum about the potential impact of the proposed Green New Deal. Free

SAT 20
Easter Egg Hunt
COLD SPRING
11 a.m. St. Mary’s Church
1 Chestnut St. | csfarmmarket.org
The Cold Spring Farmers’ Market will host an egg hunt on the church lawn. Younger children will go first.

THURS 25
Chamber Awards Dinner
BEACON
6 p.m. Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D | 845-265-3200
The Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will honor Kim Conner and Nick Groombridge, Cockburn Farm, Philipstown Communities That Care Coalition and Philipstown Community Congress and also present the annual People’s Choice Awards for new and “silver” businesses. Voting is open until SUN 21 at surveymonkey.com/r/2BYFGGD. Cost: $65

FRI 26
Arbor Day Celebration
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. 101 Main St.
The village’s Tree Advisory Board, with assistance from local Scouts, will plant a small flowering tree.

SAT 27
Urban Farming Fair
COLD SPRING
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Nelsonville Preserve
Invasive Species Removal Event
NELSONVILLE
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Nelsonville Preserve
Check in at the Nelsonville trailhead on North Pearl Street and join local Girl Scouts as they help preserve forest health. Learn about what plants to look for and removal techniques. Gloves, shovels and trash bags, as well as lunch, will be provided.

FRI 26
Mary Poppins
GARRISON
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
In this Earth Day project, participants will use recycled paper, soil and a mix of seeds to create a ball that can be dropped on a woodland trail or taken home. Cost: Free with admission ($6 to $18)

SAT 27
Hike-a-Thon and Earth Day Celebration
GARRISON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
The Foot-in-Mouth Players will present the classic musical. Also, SAT 27, SUN 28. Call for tickets. Cost: $10 ($5 children/seniors)

SUN 28
Family Bingo
GARRISON
6:30 – 8 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road | nhfd21.org
Win prizes. Refreshments for sale, as well as raffle tickets. Sponsored by North Highland Ladies Auxiliary. Doors open 6 p.m. Free

KIDS & FAMILY
FRI 26
Ree-Play Sale
BEACON
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. University Settlement
724 Woolcott Ave. | weeplyplayproject.org
This enormous annual tag sale includes gently used children’s clothing, baby gear, books, games, bikes and maternity clothes, among other items, with proceeds benefiting children’s programming and Beacon’s parks and playgrounds. Also SAT 27, SUN 28.

FRI 26
Mary Poppins
GARRISON
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
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SAT 27
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GARRISON
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504 Fishkill Road | nhfd21.org
Win prizes. Refreshments for sale, as well as raffle tickets. Sponsored by North Highland Ladies Auxiliary. Doors open 6 p.m. Free

SAT 27
Making Seed Balls
GARRISON
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
This annual fundraiser for the Haldane School Foundation will include food and drink from local restaurants, as well as a silent auction. Cost: $85

EARTH DAY
SAT 20
Making Seed Balls
GARRISON
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
In this Earth Day project, participants will use recycled paper, soil and a mix of seeds to create a ball that can be dropped on a woodland trail or taken home. Cost: Free with admission ($6 to $18)

SAT 27
Hike-a-Thon and Earth Day Celebration
GARRISON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
Choose from easy, moderate or rigorous trails and raise money for the nature museum’s programs. Earth Day festivities will begin at 11 a.m. with interactive games and performances, live music, raffles and a community art project. Parking is $5. Free ($20 donation for hike)

SAT 27
Earth Day Celebration
BEAR MOUNTAIN
10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trailside Zoo
3006 Seven Lakes Drive | 845-786-2701
trailsidezoo.org
Make treats for the bears and enjoy other crafts and activities. The first 100 visitors will receive a native plant seedling. Parking is $10. Free

FRI 26
Beacon Barks
BEACON
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Pohill Park
facebook.com/beaconbarks
Join the parade with your dog.

FRIDAY • APRIL 26

The Leadership Breakfast
BREWSTER
7:30 a.m. Tilly’s Table
100 Route 312 | 845-228-8595
pcbusinesscouncil.org
Carolyn Grossman Meagher of the NYC Department of City Planning, Meghan Taylor of Empire Business Council, and Ariana Caplan of the Office of the Mayor of New York City will speak about business opportunities coming out of New York City and the Mid-Hudson region at this breakfast organized by the Putnam County Business Council. Cost: $25

FRI 26
Arbor Day Celebration
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. 101 Main St.
The village’s Tree Advisory Board, with assistance from local Scouts, will plant a small flowering tree.

SAT 27
Urban Farming Fair
NEWBURGH
Noon – 4 p.m. Broadway and Grand newburghurbanfarmandfood.org
The fourth annual fair will include fresh food, local vendors, crafts, farm fun and demonstrations of techniques for yards and neighborhoods. Sponsored by the Newburgh Urban Farm and Food Initiative. Free

SAT 27
Taste of the Valley
COLD SPRING
6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Glywood Farm
362 Glywood Road | stonecrop.org
Haldane School Foundation will present the classic musical. Also, SAT 27, SUN 28. Call for tickets. Cost: $10 ($5 children/seniors)

SAT 27
Family Bingo
GARRISON
6:30 – 8 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road | nhfd21.org
Win prizes. Refreshments for sale, as well as raffle tickets. Sponsored by North Highland Ladies Auxiliary. Doors open 6 p.m. Free

SAT 27
Hike-a-Thon and Earth Day Celebration
GARRISON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
Choose from easy, moderate or rigorous trails and raise money for the nature museum’s programs. Earth Day festivities will begin at 11 a.m. with interactive games and performances, live music, raffles and a community art project. Parking is $5. Free ($20 donation for hike)

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BEAR MOUNTAIN
10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trailside Zoo
3006 Seven Lakes Drive | 845-786-2701
trailsidezoo.org
Make treats for the bears and enjoy other crafts and activities. The first 100 visitors will receive a native plant seedling. Parking is $10. Free

SAT 20
Easter Egg Hunt
COLD SPRING
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Memorial Park
59 Robert Cahill Dr.
Activities will include an egg hunt for children ages 1 to 12, a visit from the Easter Bunny, bike and basket raffles, a petting zoo and the annual presentation of the Mayor’s Egg.

SAT 20
Easter Egg Hunt
BEACON
10 a.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
Caplan of the Office of the Mayor State Development and Ariana Planning, Meghan Taylor of Empire Business Council, and Ariana Caplan of the Office of the Mayor of New York City will speak about business opportunities coming out of New York City and the Mid-Hudson region at this breakfast organized by the Putnam County Business Council. Cost: $25

SUN 21
Egg Hunt
BEACON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
In this Earth Day project, participants will use recycled paper, soil and a mix of seeds to create a ball that can be dropped on a woodland trail or taken home. Cost: Free with admission ($6 to $18)

SAT 20
Easter Egg Hunt
BEACON
11 a.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
Caplan of the Office of the Mayor State Development and Ariana Planning, Meghan Taylor of Empire Business Council, and Ariana Caplan of the Office of the Mayor of New York City will speak about business opportunities coming out of New York City and the Mid-Hudson region at this breakfast organized by the Putnam County Business Council. Cost: $25

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Egg Hunt
BEACON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204
hhnm.org
In this Earth Day project, participants will use recycled paper, soil and a mix of seeds to create a ball that can be dropped on a woodland trail or taken home. Cost: Free with admission ($6 to $18)
SAT 20
The Bible According to Broadway
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
htwi.org
The Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative will perform songs from Godspell, Two by Two by John, Jesus Christ Superstar and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, among other shows. Cost: $10 ($5 door, 5 children)

VISUAL ART
SAT 20
Kurt Steger
GARRISON
3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-809-5750
garrisonartcenter.org
The artist will discuss his sculptures in Environmental Works.

THURS 25
Practical Advice for Visual Artists
BEACON
7 p.m. Bearsite Beacon
291 Main St. | bearbitez.com
Artist Theresa Gooby and gallery owner Karlyn Benson will discuss how to show and promote art. RSVP to blankprojectart@gmail.com.

SAT 27
Iphoneography Workshop
BEACON
10 a.m. RiverWinds Gallery
172 Main St. | 845-838-2880
beaconlibrary.org
As part of its ongoing International Film Series, the library will screen this 1996 comedy and drama about two brothers who own an Italian restaurant in New Jersey in the 1950s. Rated R for language. Free

FRI 26
Beauty and the Beast
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road
845-838-6900, x3001
beaconplayers.com
The Beacon Players will present this classic musical about a prince trapped in a spell who must learn to love and be loved to transform himself. Also SAT 27, SUN 28. See Page 15. Cost: $22 ($5 students and seniors)

MON 22
Wasted! The Story of Food Waste
POUGHKEEPSIE
6 p.m. Poughkeepsie Day School
260 Boardman Road | 845-462-7600 x110
eventbrite.com/e/wasted-the-story-of-food-waste-tickets
Learn from this 2017 documentary how chefs turn scraps into meals and how people can waste less food. A panel discussion will follow with Gary Feinland of the state Department of Environmental Conservation, Atticus Lanigan of Zero to Go and Carrie Jones Ross of FeedIVe.

FRI 22
Big Night
BEACON
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Mary Ann Glas will explain how to use apps to correct, enhance and transform photos. iPhone/iPads/Androids and all experience levels welcome. Registration required. Cost: $50 ($35 returnees)

FRI 26
Living the Change
BEACON
7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St. | movethatmatterbeacon.org
This 2018 documentary explores solutions to what can feel like overwhelming global environmental, economic and social crises through the stories of people who are living in a more sustainable way. It will be shown as part of the ongoing Movies That Matter series.

SAT 27
Mid-Hudson Ety Makers Spring Market
BEACON
11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4614
howlandculturalcenter.org
Find handmade gifts from local artisans. Free

TALKS & TOURS
SAT 20
Birding for Beginners
BEACON
9 a.m. Bear Mountain Inn
55 Hessian Dr. | trailsidezoo.com
Meet at the Bear Mountain Inn for a presentation and walk. Suitable for ages 10 and older. Email courtney.larson@parks.ny.gov to register. Parking is $10. Free

SAT 20
Life and Ride of Sybil Ludington
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St. | 845-265-2080 | splitrockbks.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. Dacquino will also speak on SUN 28 at the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley.

MON 22
Not Quite Zero Waste
BEACON
7 p.m. Beavie Beacon
291 Main St. | beaviebz.com
Artist Theresa Gooby and gallery owner Karlyn Benson will discuss how to show and promote art. RSVP to blankprojectart@gmail.com.

SAT 27
What’s Actually Wrong with Sports Doping?
GARRISON
1 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Novelist and author Allison Pataki and filmmaker Beatrice Copeland, both of Garrison, and novelist Owen Pataki, of New York City, will discuss their work. Free

FRI 26
Dr. Wasik Ashraf of Montefiore Medical Center will discuss advancements in pain treatment. The talk is open to the public but online registration is required. Free

FRI 26
Heller Levinson: Un-COLD SPING
BEACON
7 p.m. Split Rock Books
97 Main St. | SplitRockBks.com
In his fifth book, Levinson will continue exploring his Hinge Theory of poetry.

SAT 27
Walking History Tour
COLD SPRING
9:30 a.m. Butterfly Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterflylibrary.org
Take a tour of the site where the Butterfields’ summer estate, Cragside, once stood. Free
THE WEEK AHEAD

(Continued from Page 13)

THURS 25
Introduction to Medicare
GARRISON
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Dan Calabrese, an independent insurance agent based in LaGrangeville, will talk about what Medicare covers, including Part A, Part B and Part D. Free

MUSIC
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: $10 ($15 door)

FRI 26
Flux Capacitor
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

As part of the Peekskill Brewery Takeover series, three brothers from Philadelphia will perform rock, improvisation and electronica. Cost: $15

FRI 26
Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-739-0039 | townecrier.com

The folk performers will cover multiple genres and styles with three-part harmonies. The Whispering Tree will open. Cost: $15 ($20 door)

SAT 27
Box of Rain
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

As part of the ongoing Howland Chamber Music Circle series, Robin Scott and Janet Ying (violin), Phillip Ying (viola) and David Ying (cello) will be joined by Zeill Bailey on cello for a program including Cello Concerto by Schumann, String Quartet in C Major, Op.163, D.959 by Schubert and Bach’s Cello Suite No.1, in G Major, BWV 1007. Cost: $30 ($10 students)

SAT 27
Brothers of the Road Band
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-739-0039 | townecrier.com

This tribute band will cover the songs of the Allman Brothers and Dickey Betts with the Harris Brothers Horns and Josi Davis as guests. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

SUN 28
Journey Through American Music
BREWSTER
3 p.m. Brewster High School
50 Foggintown Road
putnam symmetric orchestra.weebly.com

The Putnam Symphony Orchestra’s spring concert will include jazz, swing, classical and patriotic music by Dvorak, Copeland, Moss, Sweeney and Sousa, among others. Cost: $30 ($25 families, $6 seniors/students)

MUSIC
SAT 20
Ying Quartet
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandmusic.org

As part of the ongoing Howland Chamber Music Circle series, Robin Scott and Janet Ying (violinis), Phillip Ying (viola) and David Ying (cello) will be joined by Zeill Bailey on cello for a program including Cello Concerto by Schumann, String Quartet in C Major, Op.163, D.959 by Schubert and Bach’s Cello Suite No.1, in G Major, BWV 1007. Cost: $30 ($10 students)

TUES 23
School Board
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

TUES 23
School Board
GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

TUES 23
School Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane Music Room
15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

THURS 25
Library Trustee Election and Budget Vote
BEACON
Noon – 8 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

All registered voters in the Beacon City School District are eligible to vote. Absentee ballots are available at the library.

SUN 28
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BREWSTER
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putnamsymphonyorchestra.weebly.com

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CIVIC
TUES 23
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7:30 pm. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

THURS 25
Library Trustee Election and Budget Vote
BEACON
Noon – 8 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

All registered voters in the Beacon City School District are eligible to vote. Absentee ballots are available at the library.

THURS 25
School District Priorities Forums
GARRISON
2 p.m. & 6 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D | gufs.org

JOIN US May 3, 2019
for the Desmond-Fish Public Library’s Associates Awards Dinner
honoring author T.C. Boyle and Leonora and Tony Burton

@ The Factoria, Peekskill
desmondfishlibrary.org/dinner

SOME NUMBERS WE’RE HAPPY TO SHARE, THANKS TO OUR READERS

74% percent of readers say they frequently buy products/services from ads in The Current*

114 drop-off points in the Highlands

65,000 page views per month

13,650 local stories posted since 2010

3,800 copies picked up each week

10,000+ local readers*

The Highlands Current
As a nonprofit that provides The Current free to the community, we appreciate your support.
Chip Rowe, Managing Editor (editor@highlandscurrent.org)
Michele Gedney, Advertising Director (ads@highlandscurrent.org)

* Circulation Verification Council, Publication Audit Report, 2018
About 25 years ago, The Walt Disney Co. realized that its trove of beloved films could become live musical productions. It created the Walt Disney Theatrical Group and, beginning in 2004, began licensing productions. In the years since more than 90,000 productions have been mounted on stages around the world.

Beacon High School will join that list with its upcoming production of the musical *Beauty and the Beast*, the first — and still most popular at U.S. high schools — Disney property to be licensed. (It ran on Broadway from 1994 to 2007.)

The musical tells the familiar story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, a prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved in time, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former, handsome self.

With its fairy-tale core and attendant darkness, this “tale as old as time” (the title of one of its best-known songs) is primal emotions and fears wrapped up in the appealing Disney pastiche of ballads, jaunty characters (some of which are inanimate objects brought to life) and a fearsome spell.

*Beauty and the Beast*, directed by Anthony Scarrone, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 26; at 1 and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 28. Tickets are $12 ($5 for students and seniors) at beaconplayers.com.

For the cast list, see highlandscurrent.org.

REMEMBERING PETE

May 3 would have been Pete Seeger’s 100th birthday.

For our issue that comes out that day, we would like to celebrate Pete’s life with a collection of personal photos and remembrances.

Do you have a favorite memory of Pete? A favorite snapshot you took of or with him? Email either or both to editor@highlandscurrent.org or write us at 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. (Photos also can be dropped off at our office for scanning.) The deadline is Tuesday, April 30.
The Milliner of Cold Spring
Beacon hatmaker opens shop on Main Street
By Alison Rooney

It's never “Here’s your hat, what’s your hurry?” at Wynono & Company, the new Cold Spring millinery that will open on Main Street just in time for Easter.

In fact, it will be the opposite, says Melanie Leonard, a Beacon resident who hopes her stock of handmade hats and colorful vintage clothing will invite lingering. “I don’t want anyone to feel intimidated about coming in,” she says.

Years ago, Leonard felt intimidated about making hats, but she became friendly with a milliner, Ashley Ruprecht, who invited Leonard to her studio and wound up training her in the classic techniques.

After “falling in love with the process,” Leonard studied with Anya Caliendo, who does couture millinery. “By then I was able to make a good hat but not really express myself,” she recalls. “Anya is a strong Russian woman. She told me when things were awful, which was perfect for me! Each week you made a new style. Anya taught me true technique with her assessment of ‘nyet’ after hours of handstitching! I learned patience. Now I understand that it’s how someone feels in the hat that matters, and that I shouldn’t criticize myself if one stitch isn’t perfect.”

None of this was on Leonard’s mind growing up in Londonderry, New Hampshire, where her sartorial style was atypical. “I can truthfully say I dressed differently,” she says. “At 10 I walked around like a hippie, wearing big pants, colorful shirts. My mom would buy me Gap jeans, then we would cut parts of them out and put different fabric in.”

As a teenager Leonard recalls always being drawn to New York City; she would take a 6 a.m. bus from New Hampshire to wander around Central Park, the East Village and walk over the Brooklyn Bridge, then catch the 10 p.m. train home.

She attended college in the city, studying sociology and criminal justice at Manhattan College, and two years ago made the move from Brooklyn to Beacon with her husband, Stu McLaughlin, who is a creative director at a marketing agency and a photographer. They were joined a year ago by daughter Marlo. Leonard says she finds Beacon a “nice blend of my New Hampshire and Brooklyn backgrounds.”

(Continued on Page 17)
Soon after the move, Leonard met James and Tara Carroll of Old Souls and Barber & Brew in Cold Spring and began bartending. It was while driving up Main Street that Leonard spotted a “For Rent” sign in the space formerly occupied by Cold Spring Pet Supply at 169 Main St.

Leonard’s background also includes stints assisting fashion photographers, doing media buying and selling her vintage clothing at Brooklyn flea markets, and all of these swirled together into an idea for a business — something she had been thinking about for a while.

“If first thought, ‘Oh, this is too much space, it’s too terrifying,’ but my husband and I realized we could divide it off for a commercial photo studio.”

Leonard sells not only hats and clothing, but jewelry, shoes and a few objects. “It’s all a learning curve, and it will be interesting to see what is here in six months,” she says. The centerpieces are her hats, mostly for women. She uses all-natural straw, sourced from the city garment district, which varies between raffia, parasisal, Panama straw, Milan straw (which is made from hand-braided wheat straw) and, occasionally Toyo, which is a “straw” made of rice paper from Japan, as well as felted fur with no artificial materials.

Leonard turns the straw into trilbies (often confused with fedoras), berets, sun hats, open crowns and wide-brimmed fedoras. She’ll also do custom work when she can, as well as hat steaming, cleaning and general reshaping, regardless of where the hat was purchased.

Wynono & Company (Wynono is a Native American name given to a firstborn child) opens today (April 19). “Along with the store, I really want the space to be utilized by the community,” Leonard says. “It’s a big, multifunctional room and I hope it’s a magnet for all sorts of odd conversations.”

(Continued from Page 16)
When a Pet Dies

By Katie Hellmuth Martin

When picturing life as an adult, I never imagined holding my dog’s head in my arms as she died in our home after 17 years. Gerdy’s body was failing, and I invited the angels to release her. I never told my children how it happened. Or that it might happen. They were 4 and 6 years old at the time, and their grandmother was also in the process of dying. But we were prepared. We had been driving to Ohio to visit her in the hospital, and then in a hospice, where so many family members were taking turns being with her. We knew when she went, and where she went.

Animals in my family seemed to die and disappear. Our first dog, Bowie, got hit by a car outside our home in Syracuse while my brother and I were in the bathtub one summer evening. My dad called up the stairs to tell my mom the news.

Our next dog, Daisy, died the same way, only in our next neighborhood in Ohio. Maybe I was 10. My parents sat us down and told us that Daisy couldn’t walk anymore. We assumed she died. Our next dog, Holly, arrived on Christmas with a knock at the front door. Holly was a puppy from my aunt’s barn, and I don’t remember what happened to her after she lived with us.

Our next two dogs came in my teenage years. One was a terrier mix, and upon his arrival from the pound I kept him in my bedroom while I went to get something. He jumped out my window, happy to land in bushes down below, and proceeded to run around the yard, wagging his tale, chasing anything.

I named him Riley, for The Life of Riley. He lived for a long time, having many comebacks after fights with raccoons, until finally he died at home while my parents were away. He had already died a few times over the years, but this time it was final.

My cat Dinah came to me while I lived in New York City a few years after I rescued Gerdy from the pound as a puppy. Dinah was a barn kitty, and my sister felt compelled to give her to me. I ended up with a little gray Russian blue butterball that we called Dinah Bear. She and Gerdy became fast friends.

Dinah was here for the meeting of the man who became my husband, the arrivals of three children, and the passing of Gerdy. At 17 years, Dinah remained lounging on any piece of furniture she could hop or plop onto. She had miserable head congestion that sprayed everywhere, failing front legs and newly failing back legs. I kept waiting for The Day, but each day she awoke and ate voraciously.

One of our babysitters is a certified doula for the dying, and she was quite drawn to Dinah. “She’s looking at you a lot,” she observed. It became clear that Dinah was suffering yet peaceful. The vet thought that assisted dying would be timely, before her decline sped up and she lost control. Once again I invited in the angels, but my children are now 7 and 9, plus we have a little one who is 1.8. I let my toddler, who is blissfully unaware, do his weekly brushing of Dinah one last time (seen below). But how would I tell the other two?

I began viewing Dinah’s condition as self-imposed hospice. I told the kids of Dinah’s longstanding symptoms, and that it was beginning to be too hard for her.

(Continued on Page 19)
(Continued from Page 18)

to live. The kids gave her hugs. The next
day after soccer practice, the angels came,
and I told the kids that Dinah had died.
I didn’t know what would happen next. I
kind of let them lead.

The kids were surprised and wanted to
see her. I had decided to bury her in the
backyard and told them this, which trig-
gered them to search everywhere for her
until I relented. I allowed them to view her
little box in her resting place before the buri-
al. They opened the box to see her wrapped
in her favorite fleece blanket, then wanted to
carry the box outside to be buried.

That night as a family, we buried her.
My kids were little pet pallbearers. My
tears had been shed for the day, so I was
pretty well composed as they tossed dirt
onto the box. My son mentioned that I
wasn’t crying. If he wanted to see tears, I
thought, he can, so I let them come again.

This week, while lounging outside in the
spring sunshine with our other cat, Oliver
(who is about 14), he was giving us his usual
“I’m hungry” signs. Oliver was always re-
spectful of being second in line at the food
bowl. My son declared: “I guess it’s good
that Dinah is gone because now Oliver can
have all of the food.” Processing is a process.

Katie Hellmuth Martin is a Beacon mother
of three children, wife to one man and owner
of A Little Beacon Blog and Tin Shingle.
Haldane Student Honored
Receives Putnam County Youth Award

Ashley Haines, a senior at Haldane High School, was among the honorees at the 34th annual Youth Awards Dinner on April 11 presented by the Putnam County Youth Board and the Putnam County Youth Bureau.

Haines, who will attend Villanova University in the fall to study communications, is the founder of the Cold Spring Breast Cancer Walk, which has raised more than $23,000 for research since 2017. Sixteen other students from Carmel, Mahopac, Brewster and Putnam Valley high schools were also recognized.

Artifacts Donated to Garrison School
Revolutionary War buttons and musket ball

Dana Linck, an archeologist and preservationist who years ago excavated an American officer’s button, a private’s button, glass shards, a musket ball and buckshot dating to the Revolutionary War in what is now the Garrison School Forest, has donated the items to the school for study and display.

On April 4, Christopher Caliendo, who teaches history and social science in the middle school, hiked with seven students — Caitlin Liu, Aidan Sabatini, John Mangan, Gabe Lunin-Pack, Lena Singer-Delius, Tozai Kawabata and Jude Morrison — to the South Redoubt to meet Linck and representatives from the Fort Montgomery State Historic Site.

After Linck explained the history of the redoubt, the students measured the encampment where the items were found and plotted its coordinates. The team will research and describe each artifact for a display at the school as well as a “traveling museum” to share with the primary grades, Caliendo said. Linck also plans to return later this month to talk to the middle-school classes.

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- Etc, etc

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Battery, Blockades and Blunders*

A conversation with a chess master

By Michael Turton

A bbey Marshall, a New York City resident who has been a coach for the Haldane school chess team since 2016, has reached the rank of “chess master.” Only “international master” and “grandmaster” are higher.

What fuels your passion for the game?

I started playing in kindergarten — I always wanted to beat the next strongest kid. I love how there are always deeper levels to the game. Whenever I feel like I know a lot, I hang out with stronger players and realize I don’t know anything.

How do you prepare for a tournament?

I study the other players, their openings. I do a lot of chess tactics, study typical situations, find the best move. I also run and lift weights. It’s good to be in shape. It’s draining to sit there for five or six hours. You feel like you’ve run a marathon. You need to have the energy to do that.

Do you enjoy beating certain players more than others?

I’d say so. One of my earliest rivals was named Ksun. We’d always face each other at the Ohio state championships and at the nationals. He usually beat me, but I won a couple of times.

(Continued on Page 22)

Battery: Lining up two pieces that move similarly, like a queen and rook or queen and bishop.
Blockade: Placing a piece in the path of a “passed pawn” to keep it from promoting.
Blunder: A bad move that turns a win into a loss or draw, or a draw into a loss.

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Chess Master (from Page 21)

What do you think of computer chess?

Online chess brought the game to the world. If you live in a place with little chess, it helps you connect with other players. Playing against a computer is good, too. The Alpha Zero computer is stronger than the strongest human player. The games it plays against itself are incredible, deep-level chess.

What is the male-female balance in the game?

When I was younger, it was one girl for every 100 boys. It’s still incredibly lopsided, maybe five players in 100 are girls.

What would be considered “bad form” in chess?

Not shaking hands before and after a game is a big one. Kicking under the table. Talking to your opponent or a coach. I’m always shocked when I see basketball coaches talking to players. You don’t do that in chess.

Do tempers ever flare?

Not during the game. You may be mad at yourself and get in the worst possible mood. There’s no referee. If you lose, it’s all on you. You can’t blame a bad call.

Do you have a favorite chess set?

It would be the first set I got from my grandfather when I was six. It’s small but made of nice marble. I have five or six sets.

How do you improve your game?

I read chess books, the classics. A lot of players use the computer; I don’t do that much. Playing higher-ranked players and analyzing the game is a big part of it.

Do you ever step away from the game to clear your head?

That helps. It gets you more motivated to get back into it.

Do the best chess players have coaches?

Having a coach is important. They can look at your games, tell you where you’re going right or wrong. The coach isn’t always the better player. The best players in the world may have coaches who are not as good. The coach’s strength may match up with the player’s weakness, so the coach can help in certain areas.

Is there such a thing as home-field advantage?

I guess so, if you’re playing in your own city or state, surrounded by people and players you know.

Can the ability to concentrate be improved?

Exercise, such as running, can help you stay keyed in. One player I know said he talked to his pieces. He imagined conversations with them.

Do players sometimes overthink game situations?

It’s most common when you’re winning. You sense there’s a knockout blow and you’re trying to find it. If you can’t, you can get confused and choose a move that doesn’t work.

Does the first move set the tone of a match?

It’s not super important.

Does the U.S. have a chess capital?

It’s St. Louis, of all places, largely due to the opening of the St. Louis Chess Center in 2008. It’s a beautiful space that hosts world-class tournaments and school programs. Webster University, which offers chess scholarships, is also in St. Louis. You could also argue for New York City. The Marshall Chess Club in Greenwich Village has hosted top-level tournaments since 1915. So many schools have competitive teams in New York; tournaments regularly sell out with 350 or more participants.

Is age a big factor?

Chess has prodigies, just like math and music. The youngest grandmaster ever was 12. There have been a handful of 13- and 14-year-olds and dozens of teenage grandmasters. I also know of players who achieved that in their 40s and 50s.

What has been your proudest moment as a player?

When I sacrificed both my rooks to beat the highest-rated player at the Virginia State Championships in 2006.

Do you think about becoming a grandmaster?

It is my dream.
7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

Saturday
66/49
Rather cloudy with periods of rain, mainly early

Sunday
67/46
Mainly cloudy with a couple of showers

Monday
69/50
Partly sunny and nice

Tuesday
73/43
Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers possible

Wednesday
64/45
Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers possible

Thursday
67/46
Cloudy with a couple of showers possible

Friday
71/52
Plenty of sunshine

Pollen
Source: National Allergy Bureau

SUN & MOON
Sunrise Sat., 4/20 6:09 AM
Sunset Sat. night, 4/20 7:41 PM
Moonrise Sat., 4/20 9:14 PM
Moonset Sat., 4/20 7:11 AM

POLLINATE

ACROSS
1. weapons
5. avid follower
8. anazement
11. rattlesnake pose
12. tropical tree sap
14. type of boat
15. realm of 54-across
18. barely get enough
19. declare
20. bridge necessities
21. disbursed
22. romantic meeting
23. plea
25. sea bird
26. 9 or 9D
27. broadcast
28. in case; unless
32. among universities
36. feat
37. opposite of post-
40. scanty
42. “_ _ _ _ _ of Two Cities”
45. complete a crossword puzzle
46. Highlands’ State Assembly member
47. New York Great Lake
48. Fannie _ _ _
51. notably at the end (4 words)
54. 10th-century ruler of 15-across
55. not tight
56. region
57. honey insect
58. end to theater in London?

DOWN
1. pain
2. crow kin
3. 5,280 feet
4. nefariously clever
5. instigate
6. not close
7. ex-U.S. Rep. Hayworth
8. hydrochloric and citric
9. opposite of best
10. female sheep
12. witch group
13. academic talk
14. nimble
16. dueler’s choice
17. Gospel author
21. filled
23. corn product
24. medieval instrument
25. be sick
26. eliminate
27. pub beverage
28. overlord
29. lighten
30. recipe direction
31. predecessor of eleven
32. meticulous; conscientious
33. metal container
35. stone mix
36. feat
39. commoner, for short
40. deeply sad
41. top strata
42. chalcedony or a type-size
43. sample
44. female voice
45. Spanish mister
48. colt’s mom
49. opposite of ashore
50. Nero’s “and others,” abbrev.
51. throw
52. toddler
53. consume

SudoCurrent

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

ACROSS
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Pollen
Source: National Allergy Bureau

APRIL 19, 2019
Blue Devils Win in Dramatic Fashion

Next up: No. 1 Pleasantville

The Haldane High School lacrosse team defeated Putnam Valley, 10-9, on Monday (April 15) for the Blue Devils' first-ever victory over its larger rival. Riley Johanson scored with 1:18 to play with the game winner and finished with two goals and an assist. Sam Giachinta scored three times (including his 100th career goal) and had four assists; Darrin Santos added three goals and John Hanke made 17 saves at goal.

Haldane (7-1) is scheduled to travel on Saturday, April 20, to Pleasantville, which was ranked No. 1 in the state in Class D as of April 13 by the New York State Sports-writers Association. That will be followed by two home games for the Blue Devils, against Pawling on Tuesday, April 23, and Croton on Thursday, April 25.

Haldane Baseball Defeats Schechter But Falls at Ardsley

Coach: 2-5 squad 'a little inconsistent'

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School baseball team struggled on Tuesday (April 16) on the road, falling behind early in a 13-2 setback at Ardsley. The Blue Devils had notched their second win of the season the previous Thursday with a 7-2 decision at Schechter.

In Tuesday's five-inning loss at Ardsley (5-2-1), the Class A Panthers jumped on Haldane starter Alden Dobosz and scored all their runs in the first three innings. Adam Hotaling came on in relief to pitch two scoreless frames for Haldane (2-5).

Dan Santos went 2-for-2 at the plate in the loss. “We hit the ball, but we just couldn't string hits together,” said Manager Simon Dudar. On the mound, “Alden may have been in the zone a little too much early on, but they are a good-hitting team.”

At Schechter, in Hartsdale, Dobosz earned the win, allowing two earned runs in five innings. Hotaling pitched two innings of relief, and went 2-for-4 with a homer and a double at the plate. Kole Bolte and Matt Mikalsen each went 2-for-4 with one RBI, and John Bradley was 2-for-3. Freshman Blake Bolte also came up with his first varsity hit.

After seven games, there's visible progress, although the team remains “a little inconsistent,” Dudar said. “We're trying to pull all the facets of the game together. When we do, we're a good team. But when we're not, it falls apart on us. But the guys are still having fun.”

Haldane, which dropped an 11-0 decision to Putnam Valley on April 12, was scheduled to host Riverside on Saturday, April 20, at noon and Peekskill on Monday at 4:30 p.m.