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THUNDER MTN. 23



GRANDMA'S HANDS 8



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Masked marvels

How local food pantries are adapting to meet increasing demand

Sudden high unemployment and the resulting poverty have struck our region, and more residents than ever before are now looking to area pantries for help. Writer Annabel Gregg finds out how everyone is adapting to the increased demand and threat of germs. As well, one local pantry is holding a virtual fundraiser to "KICK COVID." They are winning this unfortunate war.

Please read more on page 3



Of proms and sports

Amid the current COVID-19 crisis, will local schools get to hold proms? Maybe an abbreviated sports season? As of press time, we do not know, but our resident high school writer, Cody Fitzgerald, asked some of his classmates and teachers/coaches to give their thoughts. And he also has a great idea about Pringles potato chips.

Please read more on page 10



FIND US IN THESE STORES:

The Schuylerville
Turning Point



OUR
REGION'S
HISTORY
- TODAY

J&P online edition starting May 1

Darren Johnson
Publisher

We at The Journal & Press are primarily creators of a print publication, and we aim to stay that way. We have been surviving this Coronavirus crisis well enough, and hope to get much of our advertising back this summer to help pay bills.

But some readers have expressed wanting an online edition. They may live outside the area now and can't wait the several days for the mail to arrive. *They like the paper that much!* Or some just prefer to see the paper as soon as possible, and we can upload the digital edition of the paper easily and instantly.

So, for subscribers of the paper, we are attempting a password-protected site where they can access the paper for

free. We'll print that month's password on the mailing label that is mailed with the paper. If you get our paper by mail, look for your password for the month of May on the label.

If this system leads to abuse – too many people sharing passwords and accessing the paper for “free,” we may come up with a sterner system. As it is now, though, many people seem to steal the physical copy of the paper off newsstands, anyway, so what can we do? There's going to be some breakage in any business. We assume most people are honest, and they know newspapers – even digital editions – cost money to produce.

I want to assure everyone though that our print edition is



our main concern. Creating the e-edition will be relatively easy, after we send the paper to the printer. We know that much of our region doesn't have reliable Internet, and many people don't use computers. Our mission includes *everyone*. We figured out a *modest* business model to keep this print paper alive, and don't

intend to change that. The e-edition is merely a “bonus” for subscribers who want it.

To access the e-edition (starting May 1) go to JournalandPress.com and find the link at the top of the page. Questions? Email us at subs@30wire.com!

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Food pantries pivot during crisis

Annabel Gregg
Journal & Press

Supermarkets and food suppliers being some of the few “essential” operations open under the CDC’s guidelines, food pantries have become a key component to the fight against coronavirus, especially considering lower-income families will be hit hardest by the virus, according to a Newsmax Health report.

Food pantries in the region have had to adapt to the significant challenges the COVID-19 crisis has thrust upon them. Lowering physical contact and keeping volunteers and pantry-goers safe is their first priority.

The Salem Food Pantry has created a method of pre-packing food and having pantry users pick up items from their cars. “We fill the paper bags with what they think they want to eat,” explains Pantry Director Philip Gould. With this method, there is a smaller chance of spreading germs since people just drive in and pick up their pre-packed bags without entering the pantry. “Now we don’t have a lot of face to face contact with people,” he says.

Jeffery Bowers, the Food Center Manager at Greenwich’s Comfort Food Community, says that they have adopted a similar structure to maintain operations. “We now serve guests by greeting them outside and bringing them a pre-packaged box of food sized according to the number of people in their household,” he explains.

“We also take precautions such as providing our staff and volunteers with gloves and cloth face masks. Plus we use an enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocol within our Food Center,” adds Bowers.

COVID has also put a strain

on these pantries in different ways. “Another change we’ve noticed is an increasing demand for our service,” explains Bowers. “During March, we experienced an increase of about 15-20 percent more individuals utilizing our food pantries. This has also translated into an increase in the amount of food we have distributed.”

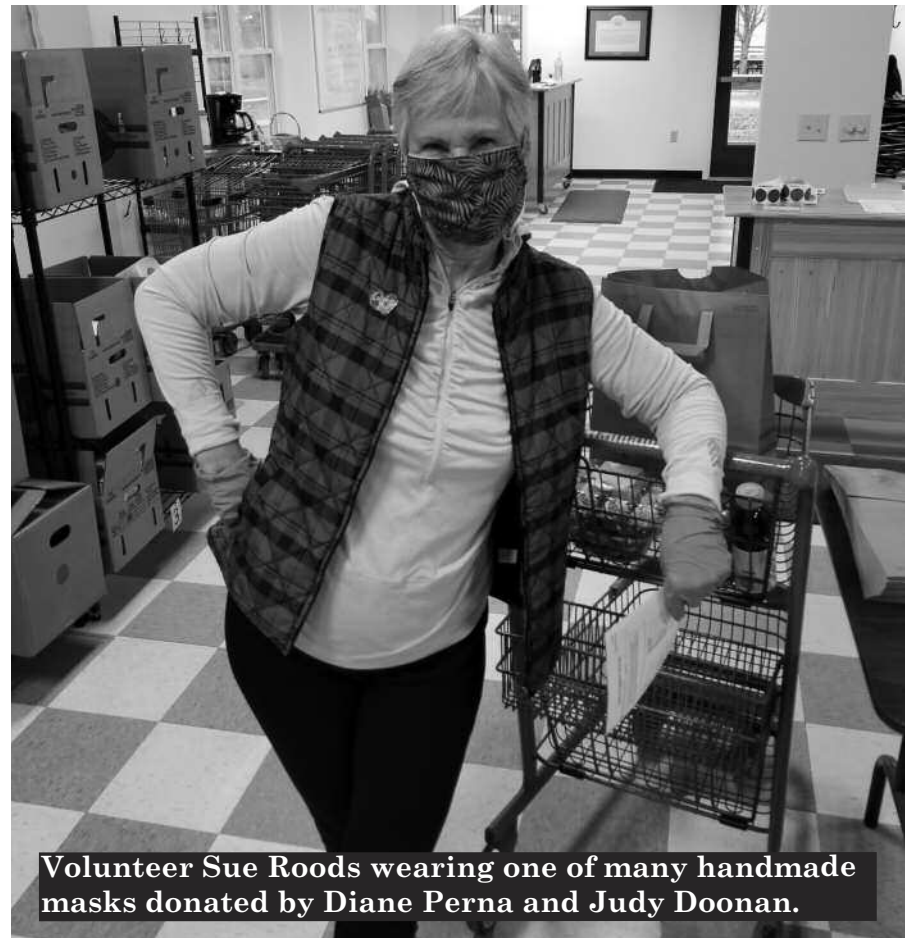
Gould also says that his pantry has had to give out “a lot more food” to keep up with the demand and make sure everyone is fed.

Despite the mounting challenges, Bowers says the community is coming forward to help. “Some of our regular volunteers have stepped back because of their individual situations, and yet other new volunteers have come forward to help pick up the slack. The combination of some new procedures and some new volunteers means we’ve been on a fairly steep learning curve. But we’ve done a great job in meeting the challenge and I think our volunteers have found it very rewarding to be able to contribute.”

Both pantries are making sure their customers are still getting fresh and healthy food too. “We’re going down to the food banks and getting fresh vegetables on Thursdays, and on Saturday mornings we issue out a big bag of fresh food,” Gould explains.

As this crisis continues to impact families across the nation, Bowers reflects on the need for food pantries to continue to work and adapt to the crisis. “Anecdotally, we hear stories of distress many in the community have felt, such as sudden

‘The pantry had to give out a lot more food.’



unemployment, and child-care challenges,” he says. “It is a fundamental part of our mission to be there to help in times like these. I hear many a heartfelt ‘thank you’ when greeting our guests at the pantries.”

But like everybody in this tough situation, Gould is ready for operations to go back to normal. But until then, he plans on keeping this process ongoing until the virus dies down. “We’re just trying to go through this whole thing and make sure everybody gets fed.”

For those looking to support the food pantries during this time, there are lots of ways to help. “The public can continue to support our efforts through donations, either products or monetary donations,” says Bowers. “We always welcome new volunteers to the fold. The com-

munity can also support our mission by continuing to spread the word about our work and making sure that anyone in need knows we are here to help.”

You can call the Salem Food Pantry at 518-854-3317 or visit them at 32 East Broadway in Salem, NY, where they are open on Saturdays from 9:30-11:30. You can visit the Comfort Food Community website at comfortfoodcommunity.org or visit them at 2530 Rte 40 in Greenwich, NY, where they are open for services on Mondays from 4:00-7:00 and Wednesdays at 9:00-11:00 and 4:00-7:00.

Annabel Gregg is a Greenwich resident studying Political Science at Hunter College.



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Online parenting help via Zoom

CCE Albany Offers Online Parenting Education Programs

When: The Magic Years (parenting education for parents/caregivers of children ages 0 – 4) on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

Virtual Strengthening Families (parenting education for parents/caregivers of school age youth – teens) on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Where: All programming offered free of charge via Zoom

The Magic Years is a four-part parenting education program for parents/caregivers of children ages 0 – 4-years-old. Topics include understanding the stages of child development, the benefits of nurturing routines at home, and managing parent and child stress. We will also discuss different parenting styles, and strategies to implement positive discipline techniques. This program will include tips for parents on managing within the current COVID-19 crisis. Participants

receive a certificate of completion upon attendance and completion of all four sessions.

The Virtual Strengthening Families Program is a four-part parenting education program for parents/caregivers of school-age youth – teens. Topics include understanding child/teenage development, common youth challenges and how to help youth navigate their world. We will also share how to improve family communication skills, keep kids safe online, and positive youth and family activities that can help during this challenging time. Participants receive a certificate of completion upon attendance and completion of all four sessions.

Advance registration is required. Contact Maria at: mkd59@cornell.edu or text 518.598.9937 to register. Upon registration, participants receive the meeting information. If the use of cellphone data is a concern, participants may also call into the program to participate.

Salem Catholic News

Rose Mary Sheffield writes: “All Masses in the Diocese are canceled until further notice. Holy Cross will be open for private prayer on Sundays from 8:30 to noon. St. Patrick’s is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings for 8:30 - 12:00 p.m. Please practice social distancing. If you would like to get the weekly bulletins on line, email: parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org. The weekly scripture readings are noted in the bulletin. For more information and great resources, please check the parish website- www.battenkillcatholic.org. Although we cannot hold our communal Masses, the Church still has some financial obligations to meet. Your gift of treasure is very important and vital to the parish. You can mail your envelope to Box 357, Salem, NY 12865 or leave it in the basket when the Church is open on Sundays. It can also be done electronically at www.battenkillcatholci.org/donations. The bulletin and website has a great deal of information that can be helpful to parishioners.”



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It's one "L" of a dam!

Mike Bielkiewicz
Journal & Press

An old dam crossing a waterway is easily overlooked while traveling through a region that was once so reliant on harnessing the force of waterpower. Riding along US Route 4 from Schuylerville towards Northumberland, a road designated as a National Scenic Byway, you will find the Hudson River's flow is interrupted by a massive "L"-shaped structure. To take a closer look at it, stop at Saratoga Falls Park, located approximately one mile north of the entrance of Hudson Crossing Park (HCP), or hike to the end of HCP's Eagle Point Trail. From either vantage point, the predominance of the Champlain Barge Canal, completed in 1918, provides a hint for the reason the dam was originally built back in 1822.

When the Champlain Canal was constructed in the early part of the 19th century, crossing the river by an aqueduct was too expensive, so engineers decided the canal could cross the Hudson in the same way it crossed the Mohawk River: by means of a "slack-water" crossing. Their design moved the tow path to the west bank of the river and up to the

bridge that was located near where the bridge is today. Animals would cross the bridge and tow their boats across the current to the next lock.

While the dam made crossing the Hudson easier by decreasing its current and was an economical solution, it was not without dangers. Benson J. Lossing's 1866 "The Hudson from the Wilderness to the Sea" mentions, "When we visited the spot, a large-class boat lay wrecked in the rapids below, having gone over the dam the day before." A second reference to a boat wreck was collected by local historian Mrs. J. B. Vanderwerker. A resident in 1927 shared a story with her about a flood in 1872 and a canal boat, "...named 'The Weatherbee' from Whitehall, loaded with iron ore that

'A large-class boat lay wrecked in the rapids below.'

locked into the river from the north and was towed to the west side of the River. The water was knee-deep on the towpath. The Captain's wife and child were on the boat. The Captain went ashore with a large rope to tie the boat so that it would not 'go over' the dam. The rope broke, and the boat headed for the dam. Elijah Freeman, the lock tender, took a boat and went to the rescue of the woman and child. As he rowed alongside the canal boat,

locked into the river from the north and was towed to the west side of the River. The water was knee-deep on the towpath. The Captain's wife and child were on the boat. The Captain went ashore with a large rope to tie the boat so that



he shouted to the woman and child to jump. They did, but missed the small boat, fell into the rushing waters and all three drowned."

Based on this story, the Hudson Crossing Park Board of Directors originally planned to dedicate a replica locktender's shanty, built by Schuylerville High School students and placed in the vicinity of Lock 10, to Elijah for his heroism, but it was soon discovered that this account was not entirely accurate. Thanks to research shared with Hudson Crossing's Board, it was discovered that the source of the story was a memory shared by a local resident for whom time had apparently blurred some details.

Most of the references indicated that the Lock Tender's name was indeed Elijah. An article in the Plattsburg Sentinel told that the tragedy occurred in 1869 with a canal boat named the Witherbee that belonged to Silas H. Witherbee, a wealthy mine owner. Another article indicated that the lock tender survived by staying in his boat.

To find a source for the correct date, research continued, and an event found in the Champlain Canal Legal and Historical Events 1791 - 1905 stated: "1869 Saratoga dam partly carried away during a great freshet." There were no references to repairs to the area in the list of entries for 1872. Since damage, due to high water, occurred in 1869 but not in 1872 and the storyteller placed the flood and the tragedy in the same year, it was concluded that the Sentinel carried the correct year. A local historian for the Village of Schuylerville, Kristina Saddleire, shared that census records demonstrated that Elijah did survive the incident. "Elijah was married to a woman named Harriet, and they had no children. They removed to Saratoga Springs, where Elijah died between the years of 1910 and 1920. Elijah Freeman owned property in Saratoga Springs on Ludlow Street, and was listed as a Saloon Keeper."

Today the dam remains a popular attraction for those visiting Hudson Crossing Park and as well as those enjoying a scenic drive through the Northumberland countryside, although most are unaware of the history, tragedy, ingenuity, and mystery, that it has been a part of.

Mike Bielkiewicz is President of the Board of Directors of Hudson Crossing Park.

Op-ed: Now more than ever, sidewalks are important. Thank you New York State!

Lorraine Merghart Ballard
Journal & Press

The warm spring weather has been slow to arrive. Most of us have been confined to our homes during the COVID-19 “stay at home” order. It has been hard to see any upside over the past month. And yet if we follow the “#518 Rainbow” hashtag, a silver lining of hope can be found at the end of every rainbow.

The first upside I noticed happened as I travelled by car. The drivers of the few cars on the road make a conscious effort to wave hello and acknowledge each other. It is a marked difference from the driver mentality that results in “road rage.” Friendly waves between drivers are not a standard practice but one that I welcome. The other phenomenon is the number of people – young, old, families and grandparents pushing strollers, teens and dog walkers – all making good use of village, town and state highway sidewalks.

As someone who has lived in walkable communities and urban settings for two thirds of my life but spent my formative years in a semi-rural, small town atmosphere similar to Greenwich, I appreciate both environments. In a rural town a license and a car means freedom to escape the familiar and sever the reliance on parents for rides. I ensured I had both the day I was legal. Until then my Raleigh Grand Prix bicycle and the ability to safely walk to my donut shop job accounted for my ability to earn the funds while still in high school. We need to offer our youth (and our seniors) the same opportunity, i.e. walkable, safe and connected communities. People need close-to-home recreational opportunities (fishing, swimming and perhaps just listening to birds) without having to be driven, dropped off and under constant supervision.

That vision drives Battenkill Conservancy's (BkC) Corridor Connection project – highlighting scenic, recreational, cultural and historic assets of the Battenkill



The old sidewalk on the south side of the highway. –dj

watershed while promoting improved connectivity and public access for residents and visitors alike. Our Middle Falls Corridor Connection site led the Department of Transportation (DOT) to contact us about the State Route 29 bridge replacement

‘Taking a long term view is important, given the bridge's 75-year projected life.’

over the Battenkill. BkC maintains (in partnership with Boralex) public access for fishing, picnics and paddling the river. The Greenwich Town Board learned about the bridge project at the February Town Board meeting when we voiced our concern that the bridge's existing sidewalk was not being replaced.

In the interim, members of the community including Jerry Squires, Chief of the Middle Falls Fire Department and a life-long resident of Middle Falls, began making phone calls to the Department of Transportation. Numerous residents wrote

letters protesting the elimination of the sidewalk and reiterating the importance of maintaining a safe, accessible and environmentally friendly design. Easton Supervisor Dan Shaw came out strongly in support of re-incorporating the sidewalk into the new bridge. Taking a long term view is important, given the bridge's 75-year projected life. Trails, walkability and highlighting the area's heritage are part of the DOT's Environmental Policy and line up well with Washington County's long term objectives.

Over the next couple of weeks the DOT collected additional feedback and discussed the sidewalk with municipalities, emergency services and businesses adjacent to the site. With the help of Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner's office, all parties including the Easton and Greenwich Supervisors were invited to take part in a conference call where the DOT provided an update on the bridge design.

In late March, we learned that the DOT had thoughtfully reviewed the facts, incorporated community feedback and would include a sidewalk as part of the new bridge.

continued on page 9

Grandma's hands

Liv Thygesen
Journal & Press

The peeler scrapped against the side of the brown russet spud. The thin peel slipped through my grandmother's fingers and fell into the mixing bowl. Her hands were so tiny that the large potato barely fit in her palm. So quickly and deftly she peeled. Before long, the entire bag of potatoes had been cleaned, diced and placed into the boiling water. Grandma always made sure we had dinner on the Sundays that she and my mother visited.

Knitting needles clicked as my brother boisterously raced around the house. The yarn twisted and wove like magic. "You kids need to settle down," spoke my grandmother. Her fingers dancing around the needles. One loop. Two loops. Hook and sweep it over. One loop. Two loops. Hook and sweep it over. The rhythm of her finger tips was mesmerizing. Grandmas' mittens were always the best. So thick and warm with always "enough room to grow." Fuss as we might when Grandma would stop mid-knit to size up the mitten to our hands, we did love her handmade knitted works of art.

Her hands were wrapped around the brown handled scrub brush as the pungent aroma of Lestoil wafted through the bathroom. The "woosh woosh, woosh" of the scrub brush could be heard across the house. The brush took two of her hands, tightly gripped in unison, to scrub the

tub. Her knuckles would bang against the sides of the tub as she briskly pushed the bubbles along. The one thing we could always count on was the cleaning help of Grandma.

The vanity had a small drawer in the front. The mirror stood centered above the thin brass handled drawer. The furniture was modest. Your typical mid-century bedroom set from the time when skirts were knee length and the houses always smelled of powder and baking bread. In this drawer, Grandma kept her lipstick. She would slip her hand in the edge of the drawer to pull it open. Her small porcelain fingers, picked

'Two loops. Hook and sweep it over.'

up her signature color autumn rose and with exquisite precision she would apply the lipstick to her small pursed lips. "Why do you put the tissue in your mouth after putting on lipstick Grandma?" "It's called blotting." She explained as her knuckles bent around the tissue. "You do it to take off the excess lipstick so as not to get lipstick on your teeth."

At 89 she still gripped the steering wheel tight as she pulled into our driveway. Her knuckles thick with arthritis. Barely able to see over the dashboard, grandma would swing her legs out of the car and hop out as if still in her sixties. She was here for lunch!



Grandma's arthritic hands would grasp her wheat bread and turkey sandwich as we reviewed the week together. The hands that peeled potatoes with speed, could barely hold the sandwich. The hands that once knitted so deftly, shook as she lifted the sandwich to her mouth. The same hands which grasped a scrub brush dropped bits of lettuce and meat to the table. The hands that once delicately applied lipstick now blindly wiped mayonnaise from her cheeks. Until consumed with ALS, Grandma visited us every Sunday. Delivering the Greenwich Journal and sharing

with us stories of the family. Grandma's hands peeled back our boundaries, knitted our family together, clean out our troubles and applied beauty to our lives. Her hands carved the memories and values which I hold deep.

Liv Thygesen has been a marine, educator and community advocate. She owns Sip & Swirl in Greenwich.



Rescue Ride postponed

Sgt Frederick Mausert III Chapter of the American Legion Riders, part of the American Legion Maxson Post family, announced the postponement of the Second Annual Cambridge Valley Rescue Ride due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ride had been slated for May 9. A new date has not been set.

"At this time, the Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad needs to focus its time and energies on responding to the medical needs of our community during a pandemic. Between this and the restrictions on large groups, it made sense to postpone the event," said Riders secretary Lance Allen Wang. "Our Director, Suzie Rogers, and the Club look forward to a reschedule of our signature event for later in the season."

Sidewalks (cont.)

It was a welcome piece of good news in an otherwise somber month. With the sidewalk being replaced on the south side of the river, those who walk, bike and even drive over the new bridge will be able to enjoy the beauty of the Battenkill. New York State listened to its residents, made the right decisions and provided a win-win for all.

Unfortunately less than a week later, our own Town Board “threw us under the bus” by writing a slanted letter protesting the DOT's decision. Supervisor Ward's letter failed to mention those who came out strongly in support of a sidewalk including the Middle Falls Fire Department, tax-paying businesses, nonprofit organizations like our own and residents who pay taxes and enjoy walking safely to some of our area's most scenic spots. He stated there were “an equal number of residents present at the meeting” who opposed the sidewalk. I was at the meeting

and did not hear 10 other attendees object to the sidewalk.

Supervisor Ward accuses the DOT that “it completely ignored the position taken by the Town Board” and made a “decision without regard to the wishes of the elected officials.” Our response: “The Town Board has completely ignored the position of those they are supposed to represent.” We come to the opposite conclusion from the Town Board. We applaud the DOT!

Supervisor Ward poo-pooed sidewalk supporters including the local fire chief, a professional trained to be fully aware of the hazards, potential accidents and safety issues as “casual observers providing anecdotal evidence”. The letter also threw out a number and failed to state the sidewalk makes up less than 6% of the project's overall cost.

The bridge is part of a 25-year Transportation Plan with a 75-year projected life span.

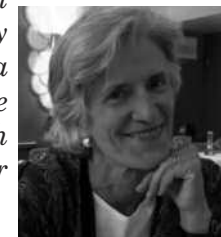


Boy Scout Troop 127 helped install the Corridor sign and then the next season helped with the garden preparation. Maggie Brand designed and installed the plantings that are there now.

Connectivity goals will not be achieved overnight. But without proper foresight or the ability to think longterm, we can be sure that what's worth protecting – our natural environment and the public's right to safely access those assets – won't exist. Sidewalks are not a “feel good” afterthought; they are an investment in our community, our collective health, and our

right to walk!

Lorraine Merghart Ballard is the Executive Director of the Battenkill Conservancy and has been a part of the Greenwich community for 30 years.



Garden plots available

Registration for individual garden plots is now open. Located on Bleecker Street next to St. Joseph's Church, the garden enjoys full sunlight and great soil. It is a fully fenced area with its own water, wash station, compost bins, and community tools. There are 16 individual plots plus four Pantry plots that all produce an array of vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers. Plots are available in 10' x 20', 10' x 14' and 10' x 10' dimension. This gives gardeners a range of sizes to choose from when planning out how much space they want to commit to for the season. 10' x 20' plots are \$25 for the season; 10' x 14' and 10' x 10' plots are \$12.50 for the season.

The community garden season runs from May 2nd to October 31st. The community space provides an opportunity to garden together - sharing tips, recipes, produce - and to meet new people while

you're growing.

To reserve your garden plot for this year, go to our website: comfortfoodcommunity.org. Under “Services,” you will find “Community Garden” in the drop down menu. You can download the application and mail it to Comfort Food Community, P.O. Box 86, Greenwich, NY 12834. Checks should be made out to Comfort Food Community with Community Garden on the memo line.

Garden plots are assigned on a first come first serve basis. As space is limited, please contact Devin Bulger, at devin@comfortfoodcommunity.org, to find out if there are still available plots before sending in your application and fee. Register today for a summer of productive fun!

Plant sale

This year the Cambridge Historical Society in Cambridge, NY will not be holding its usual plant sale in Cambridge. Instead, Al Rapp who has supplied the plants for many years will be holding the sale at his greenhouse, giving the society a portion of the sales as usual.

Therefore, he is asking that those shopping with him identify themselves as shopping for the Cambridge Historical Society. After Mother's Day Al will have hanging plants, containers, vegetables, etc. Give him a call if you wish to get a Mother's Day gift in case he has them on hand earlier. For more information, please call (518) 677-8244 or (518) 677-3327.

It's either the prom ... or Pringles

Cody Fitzgerald
Journal & Press

With what has recently been dubbed “the coronapocalypse,” life seems to be going a little slower than before. Not only this, but everyone’s day-to-day has been greatly affected. I can speak to this one personally, as memorizing all the lyrics to Avril Lavigne’s “Girlfriend” and thinking of ways the design of a Pringles can should be improved were not a part of my daily routine prior to last month. (My conclusion was that a Pringles can with mechanisms similar to that of Chapstick would be best. I was very upset to learn that this concept has already been thought up, and I’d wasted 83 hours of my life.)

With graduation, prom, spring sports and a birthday party at Chuck E. Cheese I was very much looking forward to now in jeopardy, people have had to adapt. We as a society have kept in touch through technology, whether that be texting, Facetime or ill-informed Facebook memes with a Minion slapped on them. That being said, there are things we just can’t do while in quarantine. As mentioned earlier, things such as prom and spring sports are very much in the air right now, and no one really knows what’s going to happen.

Speaking as a high school junior myself, I’m a little bummed out that we may miss our prom. I’m not particularly a “stand in a large circle and jump up and down to PG rap music for 3 hours” kind of person, but a night of hanging out with friends is a great time. I think back to last May when I went to prom and remember how great it was. The music, the atmosphere, my friends, my date, it was perfect. Then I woke up and remember

that none of this happened because I was not invited. However, my perception of prom is a good one and I’m sure that I’m going to have a great time, whenever it happens.

There has been no information yet about what is going to happen with prom, but it’s safe to say it will not commence on May 16 as scheduled. I talked with some friends of mine about prom (while practicing social distancing of course; probably shouldn’t have showed up six feet away from their doorstep at 4 a.m. though), and here’s what they had to say:

[This quote from a dear friend of mine has been redacted due to strong and threatening language.]

I talked to Reagan Hutchinson, a Schuylerville junior who told me, “It’s heartbreaking to look forward to an event your entire school career, just to get it cancelled by something completely out of your control. We have grown up with the idea of prom, but have yet to experience it ourselves. It’s a big part of high school, and now we may be missing that experience.”

Kayleen Moran, another junior at Schuylerville, said, “The best way to explain it is that we’re missing out on everything we’ve been looking forward to since we started high school. It kind of feels like we’re being robbed of the most important part of our high school experience.”

Both of them, like many, are concerned with the state of our prom, which we’ve been looking forward to for a long time.

Troy Soriano, the junior class secretary at Schuylerville, told me: “Given our circumstances I’m not surprised. I’m glad they’re prioritizing our safety, but that doesn’t take away from the fact that this stinks. At least it isn’t can-

celled, yet.” Across the board, there seems to be a lot of disappointment and fear for the future of our prom.

I reached out to Eva Drohobycy, a senior at Schuylerville who is greatly affected by this postponement because she may not even be enrolled at the school when prom commences. “It’s a real bummer how much this global pandemic is affecting high schoolers’ lives. Although Schuylerville only holds a junior prom, many seniors still attend and it’s something the entire community looks forward to. Last year, it was a really fun night where our whole class began to come together and I wish for that to still happen for the current juniors as it is a memorable night no matter how it goes.”

Not only is prom greatly affected, but this quarantine, closure is also taking a toll on spring sports. Speaking as an experienced athlete of three days running track, I can say with confidence that a seasoned and professional sprinter (I tried long distance and began hallucinating dead relatives, so we abandoned that one quick) such as myself needs to practice on their own a bit to make sure they’re ready when and if we return to sports.

I spoke with Darrin Renner, a social studies teacher and spring baseball coach, who told me that “Nothing else during my life as a student, teacher, or coach has come close to this. As a former athlete, my heart goes out to college and high school seniors that are missing their final season of sports. There is something special about your senior year in both settings from an academic, athletic, and social perspective. I really hope the danger subsides enough to allow Section 2 to figure out a way to create a reduced schedule

of league games and sectional championships. I am optimistic with the cancellation of Regents exams, meaning even high school students would be in school until the end of June, that this is possible if a return to school happens.” Many seem to share the opinion that the lack of Regents exams in June will hopefully allow for more time for sports and other school activities with less time spent cramming to review.

Katie Botissti, a math teacher who coaches softball, spoke to me about how her team is staying in contact during the quarantine. She told me: “Right now we have team Google Meets where we can see each other and talk, we do show-and-tell, we check in on our school work, and we usually do a small softball lesson. We also use Google Classroom to do daily workouts so that when we do return to school the girls are ready. I think that this time away from the field is making us realize how much we love the game. These are unprecedented times and we are doing the best we can to maintain the team mentality with hopes for a spring season.” Many teams have been utilizing Google Classroom to be able to stay in contact, not only for sports workouts, but also just to check in on each other.

Overall, these are trying times. However, I think with everyone sticking together and having each other’s backs, we can and will get through this smarter, stronger and hopefully with a revolutionized Pringles can design.

Cody Fitzgerald is a Schuylerville High School junior aspiring to become a screenwriter and comedian.



Visiting the Schuyler House

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

The Schuyler House is located on Route 4 in Schuylerville. The house is maintained by the National Park Service as part of the Saratoga National Historical Park. The plot where the house sits and surrounding lands have a colorful history.

The estate was originally part of the 1684 Saratoga Patent of 168,000 acres granted to seven New Yorkers (the Schuylers owned 24,000 acres). Through inheritance and purchase, the “farm at Saratoga” eventually came to Philip’s grandfather, Johannes Schuyler. This bustling farm, left in the care of Johannes’s oldest son, was destroyed by a raiding party of Indians and French Canadians in 1745. Almost all of the community’s enslaved and free people (over 100) were captured; Johannes’s oldest son and heir to the Schuyler fortune was killed. Philip Schuyler became the family’s new heir.

From a second house built in the 1760s, Philip turned the remnants of the ruined farm into a busy farming, milling, and merchandising center, worked by tenants, enslaved people, and artisans (notably Scottish immigrants). With his wheat, flax, and hemp crops, linen mill, sawmills, herring fishery, and

general store selling goods and services, Philip’s Saratoga community and personal wealth grew substantially.

As a member of the Continental Congress, an influential New Yorker, and an experienced officer, Schuyler was given the rank of major general on June 19, 1775—making him third in command under George Washington and commander of the Northern Department of the Continental Army. In

the summer of 1777, as British forces overwhelmingly swept down the Champlain and Hudson Valleys, Schuyler was blamed for the loss of Fort Ticonderoga and the American Army’s retreat.

Congress replaced Schuyler with General Horatio Gates on August 19, 1777, one month before the Battles of Saratoga. Notwithstanding this personal setback, Schuyler helped the army from his mansion in Albany by forwarding supplies and encouraging reinforcements northward.

Just like in 1745, the house, mills, and most of the buildings were destroyed on October 10, 1777, this time by the retreating British forces after the second Battle of Saratoga.

Following the surrender of British forces in Saratoga on October 17, 1777, and the departure of tens of thousands of troops from the area, Philip immediately began to plan the rebuilding of his Saratoga house and farm out of its charred remains. Since winter was approaching fast, his new “cheaply and speedily erected” house was completed within the weeks of November. It



was built upon the existing foundation of a burned building and used fresh-cut lumber from his upper sawmill. Paying high wages for labor from all over Albany County, and even by using some captive British soldiers, the plain, unrefined house was finished.

It was much smaller and simpler than the one to which Philip was accustomed. As time went

‘The buildings were destroyed by retreating British.’

on, the house grew in size and comfort, with structural additions expanding the capacity to house visitors.

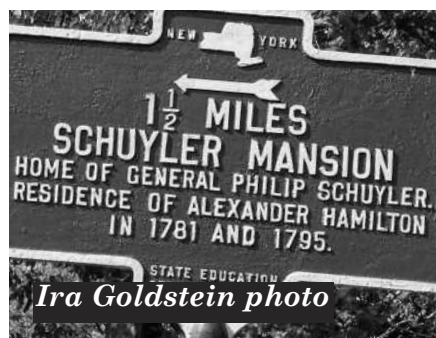
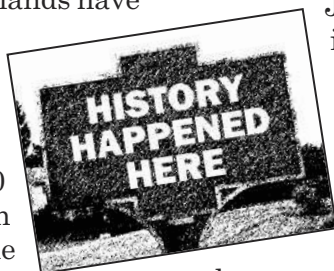
Throughout Philip’s life and since, this house has been the destination of many visitors, some of whom were famous citizens. George Washington (godfather of daughter Catherine Schuyler), son-in-law Alexander Hamilton (who married daughter Elizabeth Schuyler), Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and the Marquis de Lafayette visited

this house.

The land encompassing part of the original Schuyler estate was renamed “Schuylerville” in 1831 in honor of the Schuyler family. George Strover purchased the Schuylerville House in 1939. His descendants gave “shares” of the house to St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church and the church used the money to build a new church. The National Park Service acquired the property in 1950. Several renovations have been completed since then.

The Schuyler House is open from late Spring to early Fall each year. In addition, special events are held at the house. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions, all National Park facilities are closed until further notice.

A resident of Greenwich, Jim Nolan is a Professor of Business Analytics at Siena College and serves on several Greenwich area nonprofit boards.



Is a virtual joke just as funny?

For 30 years I've made my living as a standup comedian. I've stood on iconic stages including the Grand Ole Opry and the Chicago Theatre. I've gazed out at crowds as large as 10,000 and as small as six. We won't talk about the six.

My moods following my performances have run the gamut from elation to despair. From feeling like I'm the first person to set foot on an uncharted planet to wanting to jump into a recently dug grave and instructing the backhoe operator to "just bury me now."

The one commonality to all these shows was a live audience. The coronavirus has, for the immediate future, taken away my ability to perform.

Or has it?

Enter the concept of virtual entertainment, an idea that has never really taken off considering that, despite the available technology, most people ultimately think it's weird to watch a hologram of Prince or another deceased rock star "playing" live on stage. The connection a performer feels to an audience works in reverse too; the audience must feel that same connection.

So when a show I was scheduled to perform for 1,200 members of the dairy industry in Madison, Wisconsin, joined the scrap heap of cancellations on my calendar, I was not hesitant, rather overjoyed, when the organizers said they wanted to me to perform virtually.

Of course, that would mean performing standup comedy to a camera, without a crowd. The audience, I was told, would watch from bedrooms, hotel rooms and home offices, surrounded, most likely, by nobody.

Not exactly the ideal audience for a comedian. Still, the show must go on.

At 8 p.m., I entered a conference room that looked as if preparations were in place for some sort of invasion. A half-eaten take-out pizza sat on a round table big enough to seat 10. Snacks, drinks and sandwiches purchased from an attached hotel represented lunch for the staff tasked with running the virtual operation. Dinner too.

A few IT personnel stared intently at laptops as another virtual presenter, speaking from God only knows where, gave a speech entitled "Practical Proven Systems for More Profitable Innovation." I heard his voice and saw the PowerPoint slides he had assembled for his talk, but I didn't see him.

Instead I saw an empty stage and a single camera pointed at it.

"That's where you'll be," the conference organizer told me.

When the previous speaker had concluded, another member of the organizational team grabbed a mic and said, "We have some questions." These questions, I assume, were submitted by attendees watching virtually. Of the 10 people in the conference room, nobody raised a hand.

'COVID-19 has taught me one thing: Laughter cannot be quarantined.'

The unseen presenter answered several questions and then it was time for me. Like a normal show, a tech clipped a lavalier microphone to my shirt; like a normal show I stood slightly offstage awaiting my introduction. And, like a normal show, I bounded onstage when I heard my name.

The next 45 minutes were left to my imagination.

The conference room participants – seven staff members and three techs – did their best to laugh at my jokes, which, naturally, included a few references to the massive elephant in the room.



"I'm staying in a very nice hotel here in Madison," I said. "I only live two hours from here, so I don't really need a hotel. But I was out of toilet paper and the hotel had some."

Strangely, the longer I performed, the more confident I was that somebody was laughing somewhere. A few laughs from the 10 people in the room were all I needed to keep going. Yes, there were some uncomfortable moments, but it's also uncomfortable doing standup at a party in the hull of a Catamaran. OK, I brought up the audience of six. Sorry.

I hope there will be no more virtual shows in my career. I hope to be back on stage soon, where I can see and converse with real audience members.

But COVID-19 has taught me one thing: Laughter cannot be quarantined.

Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of two books: "Text Me If You're Breathing: Observations, Frustrations and Life Lessons From a Low-Tech Dad" and the recently released "The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian," available at Amazon.com. Visit Greg on the web at www.gregschwem.com.



Living in a COVID-19 world, locally

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

The COVID-19 epidemic has changed the way we live – the way we work, play, and volunteer; how we interact in education-related endeavors; where we can shop and eat; and who in our family we can be with. Suddenly, we have experienced an upending of our routines. How are we dealing with this upheaval?

I've communicated (using established social distancing protocols) with several individuals in the greater Greenwich area. It is clear that we have been affected in more ways than the ones I outlined in the opening paragraph of this story.

One respondent states, "In the big scheme of things, several aspects of my life are better. Although I am still physically working at my place of employment because my job is considered essential, my hours have changed for the better." She also states "things are a bit more relaxed since no one is in a hurry to get anywhere – because there is no pace to go."

As with other respondents, she is reading more and utilizes the Internet to access news sources from around the world. She does grocery shopping for relatives that can't get out but maintains social contact with other family members using social media. However, she misses one of her passions – watching

baseball in person and on TV.

Finally, she told me that many years ago, she asked her grandmother about the 1918 Influenza epidemic. Her grandmother was 10 at the time and caught it, as did her father. Her mother nursed both back to health. Her grandmother's last memory of that time: "The nights – when all you heard was the sound of the horse-drawn carriages going up and down the road – carrying the dead."

Sara Idleman, retired teacher and five-term Town of Greenwich Supervisor, points to the

'I have the time to pursue long-ignored hobbies.'

"liberating" aspects of social distancing. "After working for 40 years, I have found the restrictions somewhat liberating. I have the time and energy to pursue long-ignored hobbies. I call it nesting; cooking, knitting, sewing, reading, gardening and social distancing with my family and friends."

She goes on to say, "However, I quickly realized I needed a schedule of sorts, otherwise I would be overwhelmed by the news. I stay informed, but avoid most TV news. The images are too disturbing. It is heartbreaking to see the pain and losses

that so many are experiencing. Although so much is out of our control, it is important to be aware of those in dire need and do what we can, within our communities, to relieve as much hardship as we can."

One of the most difficult restrictions imposed by social distancing is the inability to visit with sick family members, especially those who are elderly and have medical issues they are dealing with. Alan Stern, retired business owner and Greenwich resident, shared a heartbreaking story about his mother. Paraphrasing his words would not convey the depth of feeling Alan conveyed to me. Therefore, I will give you a long verbatim quote:

"For Mary Lou [his wife] and me, the most difficult aspect of the COVID-19 restrictions has been our inability to be with my mother in her final days at age

101. We'd been making trips to Buffalo as often as we could to see her and to provide help and respite for my sister who was her main caretaker.

"We had plans for another visit when the travel restrictions and stay at home orders went into effect. Daily calls to my sister and mother helped and, as we learned to use video calling, these gave us a closer and most welcome feeling of connection. Sadly, Mom began to decline quickly and went into a hospice facility.

"This presented the hardest part of being stuck at home. More than anything we wanted to be with her and with my sisters in this difficult time. We seriously considered defying the travel restrictions as did my younger sister in California. But the threat to others, includ-

continued on next page

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Our COVID-19 world (cont.)

ing my sister who has lived with respiratory issues all her life, was too great to dismiss so reason prevailed and we watched Mom pass away from a distance.”

Alan went on to say that technology allowed his family to enjoy “a wonderful virtual Passover Seder and celebration of my mother’s incredible life that brought together family from Portland, Pasadena, Austin, Albany, Buffalo, Galway, Altamont, Saranac Lake, Washington DC, NYC, West Hebron and us in Greenwich to share stories and break bread together in spite of the miles and the restrictions that are keeping us apart. A traditional Seder ends with the words, ‘next year in Jerusalem.’ Ours ended ‘next year together.’”

Judy Doonan is an independent contractor who sells jewelry and accessories to stores all around New York State. With her customers forced to close their stores, she no longer is able to conduct business. To make matters worse, this is usually one of Judy’s busy times of the year. Fortunately, the recently passed coronavirus rescue package includes unemployment benefits

for independent contractors.

Judy has a friend who is a Nurse Practitioner. Her friend told her how difficult it is for many organizations to get protective masks. Working with some friends, Judy coordinated the creation of Mask Angels. Volunteers sew cloth masks with elastic straps and donate them to organizations in need.

Mask Angels has donated masks to developmentally disabled group homes, home health aides, Southern Vermont Medical Center, and Comfort Food Community.

The quarantine has prevented Judy and her husband David, former Village of Greenwich mayor, from seeing their children and grandchildren. Video chats have to suffice for now but they long to hold them – including their two month old granddaughter.

Judy and friends are preparing an Easter dinner for a local family who are self-quarantined after one of them tested positive for COVID-19. She feels many people will feel more connected to each other in

the aftermath of this epidemic.

Pat Lamb Isgro, a Greenwich resident who works largely from home, reflects on the sadness she feels for those who are ill, and those who have died and their families. She also feels an occasional “dread” – as if she was living in a sci-fi movie. Finally, she feels anger – why weren’t we as a country better prepared and where is the testing program that will let us know when all is safe?

On a smaller scale, Pat feels gratitude that she lives in a rural community with beautiful countryside and fresh air. Being able to attend church services online as well as keeping in touch with friends electronically is a plus as is access to fitness classes placed online by instructors. She also is in awe of the two young nurses in her family who are working in ICU’s.

There is no question the COVID-19 epidemic has upended our lives. This sample of Greenwich area residents demonstrates that. However, as all have said in one form or another, these challenges have given us pause to reflect on what we perhaps sometimes take for granted – family, friends, and helping those on need to name a few.

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Saving money and a Salem troupe

Kaylee Johnson
Journal & Press

The Journal & Press has had several iterations. At one point there were separate papers called The Greenwich Journal and The Salem Press. And for decades, the newspaper owned another historic paper, The Fort Edward Advertiser, but dropped that from the masthead. You can find archives of these papers and more in the Greenwich Public Library's excellent Gill Room or online at nyshistoricnewspapers.org.

Here are some snippets from past editions from late Aprils many decades ago:

100 Years Ago **April 21, 1920**

These are the lean years.

Spend all your earnings now, and your money buys but half what it will in the fat years to come.

A dollar saved now will be worth two when the country is again normal.

Do without luxuries, and you will be performing an economic service by helping to overcome the world's shortage of goods.

Serve your country, and save for the fat years by depositing your dollars with us at 4% interest

– The Peoples National Bank
Salem, New York

90 Years Ago **April 30, 1930**

Members of the Greenwich High School graduating class re-

turned Sunday from their ten-day excursion to Washington. The opening days of the excursion as reported by class members appeared in The Journal last week. The rest of the story follows:

“Tuesday, April 22—Today we went to the White House. We expected to meet Mrs. Hoover, but she was unable to meet us. We went through the east wing of the White House and then went to the new National Museum...”

80 Years Ago **April 17, 1940**

Fire, discovered about 4:15 last Wednesday afternoon in the storehouse that was formally the Whiting Milk Plant on Lower Hill Street and had since been purchased W. J. Lyttle who had a large quantity of motor oils and supplies stored there caused the worst blaze that has visited this village in many years. In the extent of property loss as well as in the fire fighting problem it presented, it set a record unequalled since the blaze that destroyed the school building in 1925.

70 Years Ago **April 26, 1950**

The Village of Schuylerville is making great preparations for the observance of Surrender Day there on October 14. The date marks the surrender of General Burgoyne to General Gates at Schuylerville in 1777, and for the first time a celebration of that special date will be held in Schuylerville.

Communities in this section are being invited to participate

in the program, and to enter floats depicting revolutionary history of their villages. The historical publicity group of Schuylerville, formed to arouse interest in the historical significance of that village, is already making plans for the surrender day program and is receiving cooperation for many nearby communities.

60 Years Ago **April 27, 1960**

Local Briefs:

- Mrs. Harry Clow of Syracuse is visiting relatives in Argyle and vicinity.

- Howard Pelkey of Whitehall has been visiting his uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Loomis Sr.

- Mrs. Etta Amos of Oxford has returned home after spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. F. J. Fahrenholz.

- Word has been received of the birth of a son, David Eric, to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cascio of West Chazy. Mr. Cascio was a former instructor in the agricultural department of Argyle central school. He now does 4-H work in Clinton County.

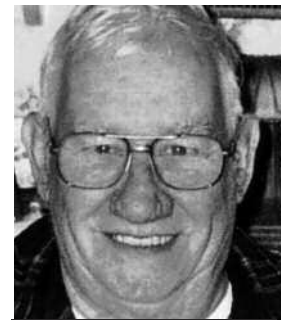
40 Years Ago **April 24, 1980**

There's no business like show business and although he lost \$7,500 last year, Quentin Beaver will open Fort Salem Theatre for the 1980 season.

How does one lose money after a seemingly successful 1979 season and with the help of a \$5,000 grant from the New York State Council of the Arts?

According to Mr. Beaver this

year's production expenses alone will exceed – \$10,000. These include the cost of rights, sets, costumes, salaries and printing.



Quentin Beaver
passed away in
2011.

30 years ago **April 26, 1990**

The Greenwich Free library will present a program of stories and crafts on Saturday April 28 for children ages 2-5 with a parent. You may attend either the 10 or 11 a.m. session.

This program is part of the Read Together series being held at The Greenwich Free library from April 21 to June 2. The series is supported by the Federal LSCA Title 1 funds granted by the New York State Library to

20 years ago **April 20, 2000**

The Adirondack Mountain Club Volunteer Trails Program announces the availability of its 2000 Trails Program Brochure. Volunteers participate in one, two, four and five-day projects that include bridge construction, side-cutting, rock work, and trail clearing on hiking trails in various areas of the Adirondack and Catskill mountains.

COVID relief: What you need to know

Jill Schlesinger

Special to Journal & Press

It seems that the \$2.2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act has created quite a bit of confusion. Many of you have written and I am here to help. Here are the answers to the first batch of questions.

When will I get my check? Treasury has said that direct deposits will hit accounts within three weeks of the bill's signing, which was March 27, but it looks like that could be ambitious. If you do not have direct deposit information on file with the IRS or the Social Security Administration, the wait could extend to up to four months.

Does everyone with a child get the check? No – you still have to fall within the income limits of up to \$99,000 for individuals and \$198,000 for married couples. Also, the child must be under 17, which means that your college kids who you claim as dependents are not eligible for either the direct payment or the

child credit.

Do I have to take my required minimum distribution for 2020 while the market is down? For calendar year 2020, no taxpayer will have to take an RMD from IRAs or any employer plans (401(k), 403(b), 457, TSP).

Should I tap my 401(k) if I need cash? I generally advise that people try to avoid touching those hard-earned and saved dollars, but the CARES Act waives the 10% penalty on early retirement plan withdrawals, as long as you can prove that you need the money because of the pandemic. You will still owe taxes on the withdrawal amount, but you can spread the tax bill over three years from the distribution date.

If I am still working, should I keep paying my student loans? The new law will automatically suspend payments on federal student loans until Sept. 30, with no penalty or interest accruing. That said, if you are still working, making those payments means that you are getting a

jump on principal pay down, which could shorten the term of your loan. Note: Perkins, state and private loans are not included.

What's the difference between being laid off and being furloughed? The term "layoff" is usually the complete termination of an employment relationship due to economic considerations or restructurings, as opposed to being fired for cause or due to poor performance. A furlough is a suspension of active employment, but usually with the idea that the employee will return to active employment. The recent furloughs by retail giants like Macy's and Gap mean that workers would remain on the company's health insurance plan for defined period of time but would not be paid. Whether you are laid off or furloughed, you can claim unemployment insurance benefits.

I filed for unemployment before the pandemic; am I entitled to any of the CARES Act benefits? You don't need to be directly impacted by the virus to be

entitled to the expanded unemployment benefits outlined in the Act. Your current state benefits will still be extended by 13 weeks and you will also get the extra \$600 federal weekly benefit.

Which bills should I pay first? Food is number one and after that, it's time to prioritize. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has a good worksheet available at consumerfinance.gov. Some renters were given leeway in the legislation through the four-month nationwide eviction moratorium. But the rule only applies to those landlords who have mortgages backed or owned by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and other federal entities. Some states and municipalities have similar rules, which prohibit evictions as well as charge any fees or penalties for nonpayment of rent.

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst.



Stay calm, create a schedule

Daneen Skube

Special to Journal & Press

Q: *People in my workplace seem paralyzed by virus fear. Many are telecommuting, but online meetings center on virus chat. What are you telling clients?*

A: What I am telling clients and thinking is that the three emotions human beings find hardest are powerlessness, fear and vulnerability. All three are going on. Within the next 30-60 days we will have a lot more data. Right now there is no crystal ball that can comfort us with certainty.

I read an article on the psychology of panic toilet paper buying. The article pointed out how

frightened people desperately seek power over anything. Stocking up on toilet paper and hand sanitizer is something we can do. Preventing a microbe from disrupting our lives is not something we can do.

There's no doubt the world will not be doing business as usual. The good news is we're demonstrating we can cooperate globally. Anyone who ever wanted to get telecommuting approved will be getting excellent data. We will also wake up from ordinary habits and unconsciousness and pay attention to problem solving in new ways.

These changes are not bad despite the fact our rapid change is being forced by a bad event. A

wise adult learns there are burdens during times of blessings, and importantly right now, there are blessings during times of burden. I suggest to clients that thinking too far ahead right now is futile and overwhelming. Obviously this is not an ideal time to retire, go to a rock concert or take that big international trip. Obviously daily life for most people is going to have little or no community engagement.

Instead of attempting to predict where you and we will be in 60 days, give experts, scientists and government a chance to catch up with the challenge. Follow prudent advice and don't make dramatic decisions assuming we are now in viral Armageddon –

we aren't.

Life and work will go on with necessary changes. An adversity from a novel virus will not be the last or only new threat we face. Our ability to find solutions on a problem of this magnitude is good practice for the other difficulties. There is international clarity that we cannot solve the complicated problems of the modern world without everyone working together.

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., executive coach, trainer, therapist and speaker, also appears as the FOX Channel's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning.



How to help locally during trying times

Kaylee Johnson
Journal & Press

The last month has been nothing short of apocalyptic and unnerving. Panic levels have risen and people are much more wary about communication due to the health risks that come along with it. A trip to Hannaford or Target has a jarring, uncanny resemblance to a supply run on the show “Walking Dead.” But when people go on these short shopping trips, they are reminded of their community and how their friends and family members have been affected by the pandemic. At this time, it may seem impossible to do anything besides binge watch Netflix in your bedroom or walk your dog five times a day, but there are plenty of safe, friendly ways you can help your community cope with this pandemic.

I have been seeing many posts about how much senior citizens are benefiting from calls during this lonely time, and while that is certainly a kind, uplifting gesture, all people could benefit from a check in and light and familiar conversation right now. Set a few minutes aside every day to talk to people who bring you warmth and comfort. To make things even more intimate, organize a Zoom meeting with all of your favorite people. Now more than ever, society must show some gratitude for technology and how it has connected us during isolation.

Parents of homeschooled children can have some fun while socially distancing by exchanging wiped down books or board games for their families to play. Books and games can be left in mail boxes or on front porches, and children will ex-

cited to know that their friends are thinking about them! Make the exchange a little bit sweeter by including a tin of homemade baked goods or a hot meal. On top of that, if you are healthy, reach out the needy in your community and help out by offering to make store runs, cooking meals and taking their pets for walks. Many people who are high risk for getting COVID-19 are afraid to leave their houses and expose themselves to the virus.

You can also show some major appreciation by sending a video or written thank you letter to your child’s teacher. This transition has been especially difficult for teachers, since most education programs and school districts do not properly prepare for pandemics and online learning. Yet, teachers are working their hardest to offer accessible online educational resources to you and your child constantly.

Small local businesses and restaurants are taking a major hit during this time as well, and many won’t be able to recover from the significant financial distress that being ordered to shut down or only offer take out services has caused. Just to name a few, Old Saratoga Eatery, Schuylerville Pizza and Pasta, Revolution Cafe, Clark’s Steakhouse, Twin’s Thai Food, Jay’s Pizza, and Greenwich House of Pizza are open and taking orders. To find a full list of restaurants opened and closed the area, visit Battenkillstrong.org. These restaurants need your business to survive and would greatly appreciate social media promotions and any orders. You can’t go wrong with delicious local food made with love.

While you are visiting the Battenkill Strong website, you can also find a neatly organized

list of local health updates and food resources. Comfort Food Community, a local food pantry, is now offering delivery services to people in need and following CDC guidelines by sanitizing and cleaning items before they reach pantries. If you would like to take part and volunteer or donate items call 518-692-3082 or email info@comfortfoodcommunity.org.

Local animal shelters like The SPCA of Upstate New York and Saratoga Animal Shelter are still taking donations, but are only allowing visits by appointment only. Call each shelter to see how you can help before showing up, and make sure to sanitize before and after entering.

There are countless other unique, personalized ways you can be an active member of your community during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the first step is reaching out and communicating with loved ones and people who are a bit too isolated. Make yourself a positive force in their lives. If you or somebody you know is suffering emotionally, mental health hotlines are available, free and constantly running. The Battenkill Valley has always been a close knit, powerful community, and together we can overcome panic, loneliness and all of the other unpleasant attributions that come along with quarantine.

Kaylee Johnson is a senior Education major at the College of Saint Rose in Albany. She lives in Greenwich.





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From ‘duck and cover’ to ‘shelter in place’

Lance Allen Wang
Journal & Press

As we sit self-quarantined in our homes, it makes me think about other times our government had plans for us to ride out the storm at home. We all know how to stock up for a hurricane or blizzard, but what about when apocalyptic talk gets “real,” like involving weapons of mass destruction? After all, viruses like COVID-19 are one of nature’s weapons of mass destruction. There was a time when America was learning in schools and the media about how to survive the atomic bomb and how to prepare for 15 days straight in a basement home fallout shelter. Let’s revisit those heady days, if only to remind ourselves that there is nothing new under the sun. We’ve been here before – during the 1950s and 60s, and then again after 9/11.

When the Russians exploded their own atomic bomb in 1949, so began the “Duck and Cover” age – the age when cartoons like “Bert the Turtle” taught school children to duck under a desk or anything else sturdy in the event they saw the bright flash of an atomic bomb. The problem (among several) was that Bert never told kids about a little side effect called radioactive fallout.

As if the atomic bomb wasn’t enough, in 1952, the United States detonated the hydrogen bomb, a “thermonuclear” bomb 450 times more powerful than the atomic blast that leveled Nagasaki in 1945. In 1955, the Russians exploded a comparable weapon. These tests made clear the threat of radioactive fallout was more severe than previously thought, as the 1952 American test enveloped 7,000 square miles of ocean over 180 miles from ground zero. All of the sudden, a target area was not a point on the ground, it was wherever prevailing winds would take the radiation. Congress was not going to pony up the bucks for public bomb shelters – but we would have fair warning if Soviet bombers were on the way, so we’d be able to intercept and destroy them, right?

Not quite. In 1957 the Soviets demonstrated their ability to put a satellite in orbit. They had won the first round of the space race. And now the enemy theoretically had the ability to launch an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) and cut those hours of warning down to 30 minutes or less. Now, how would we protect civilians? Well, consid-

ering the costs involved in a full-blown public fallout shelter program, again Congress and the President balked on funding it. However, the government encouraged Americans to build their own private fallout shelters.

With all of this as backdrop, the early 1960s were terrifying. In 1961, Russian and American tanks faced off at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. And finally in 1962, the Cuban Missile Crisis brought the possibility of nuclear war far closer to reality than ever when the Soviets began placing medium and short range nuclear missiles in Cuba. During this period, President Kennedy began a program called the “National Shelter Survey,” where some existing buildings were designated as Public Fallout Shelters, marked with the ubiquitous yellow and black “FALLOUT SHELTER” signs. This period resulted in the stocking of many of the designated fallout shelters with supplies including radiation meters, survival rations, barrels of water (which, once emptied, were to be used as commodes), and medical supplies including the tranquilizer phenobarbital.

‘Bert the Turtle taught school children to hide under a desk.’

Once Russia and the United States got through the Cuban Missile Crisis, they realized how close they had come to nuclear war. In short order, a Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was in place, and the emphasis on and funding for civilian protection began tailing off markedly. Civil defense would become very much of a “look out for yourself” affair. Over the next 20 years, the supplies in the public shelters would slowly expire. The tranquilizers were stolen, the survival biscuits got moldy, and the water barrels leaked. In the 1980s, President Reagan wanted to update civil defense, but between money concerns and a sense of futility as envisioned in movies like “The Day After,” Congress was not willing to put up much in the way of resources.

Along came 9/11. The possibility of a new threat, a “dirty bomb” smuggled in by terrorists became the new nightmare. Sheltering at home was the answer. Citizens were told to



get duct tape, plastic sheeting, 15 days’ worth of survival supplies, and make a “safe room” in their house. This program was derisively referred to as “Duct and Cover.” It also was accompanied by a color coded “Homeland Security Advisory System” with five levels of alertness for terrorist attacks. What one was supposed to do when the level was say, “Guarded,” as opposed to “Elevated,” “High,” or “Severe” was never really part of public education, and this portion of the program quietly disappeared within several years.

Now with COVID-19, again we are asked to shelter at home – but instead of “Duct and Cover,” we now “Shelter in Place.” Instead of an invisible threat on an irradiated landscape, we are avoiding an invisible virus ten times more lethal than the flu. The difference is this – when we emerged from our 15 days of hiding in fallout shelters, we were expected to adapt to a devastated world. Self-quarantine takes place with the power and water still running, the information superhighway chugging along, and the ability to emerge periodically, taking all proper precautions, and conduct essential business. Perhaps this little trip down memory lane serves, most of all, to remind us that we could have been sheltering under far worse circumstances.

Be safe – and be healthy – my friends.

Lance Allen Wang is a Councilman in the Town of White Creek who is also an Iraq Veteran and retired Army Infantry officer. He lives in Eagle Bridge, N.Y., with his wife Hatti.



New videos now available

Jay Bobbin

Special to Journal & Press

Stuck at home? Here are some new video releases:

“JUST MERCY” (PG-13): Movie history is filled with law dramas that have benefited from fine teamwork by the actors who play attorney and client, and here’s another one. Michael B. Jordan portrays a Southern lawyer who makes a specialty of taking up the cases of wrongly convicted inmates on death row. One such prisoner is played by Jamie Foxx, and his claim of innocence in the death of a young woman goes unheard by local authorities, due in large part to the interracial overtones of the crime. Enter the Harvard graduate represented by Jordan, but his good intentions are met with skepticism by just about everyone ... including the convict himself, who’s had enough disappointments and is resigned to his apparent fate. However, assisted by a paralegal (Brie Larson), the lawyer finally gets through to his intended client and their work to overturn the conviction begins. Obviously, director and co-writer Destin Daniel Cretton involves a lot of good actors — also including Tim Blake Nelson as a questionable witness — but the real revelation is Foxx. He largely stifles his usual charisma, a requirement of his role here, and he’s extremely effective in a different kind of performance for him.

“UNDERWATER” (PG-13): The title leaves little doubt as to the setting of this thriller, casting Kristen Stewart as a member of a mining-outpost crew whose submerged base of operations is ravaged by an

earthquake. With their escape pods gone and communication with the surface cut off, they have to deal with not only the natural conditions of the deep, but also lethal creatures that are on the attack. In terms of putting forth scares, the film tries to do for the ocean floor what “Alien” did for outer space, but it’s only partially successful in achieving that. Stars also include Vincent Cassel, John Gallagher Jr. (“The Newsroom”) and T.J. Miller (“Silicon Valley”) — and from a Hollywood-history stance, this was one of the last movies to bear the 20th Century Fox imprint before new owner Disney decided to drop the “Fox.”

“POLICE SQUAD!: THE COMPLETE SERIES” (NR): While the terrifically satirical success of “Airplane!” led to the three “Naked Gun” police spoofs, there was a step in-between from the Zucker-Abrahams-Zucker creative team, and the short-lived (only six episodes) ABC series that introduced the riotously inept detective Frank Drebin — played from the start by Leslie Nielsen — now makes its Blu-ray debut. The hit-or-miss style of humor will be familiar to anyone who knows the movies this show inspired, though Alan North plays Drebin’s partner instead of the films’ George Kennedy, and “Mission: Impossible” alum Peter Lupus appears as a version of the fellow cop who would be played by O.J. Simpson later. Guest stars portraying generally ill-fated characters include television staples Lorne Greene, Florence Henderson, William Shatner, William Conrad and Dick Clark.

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Cambridge Crossword

(solution page 24)

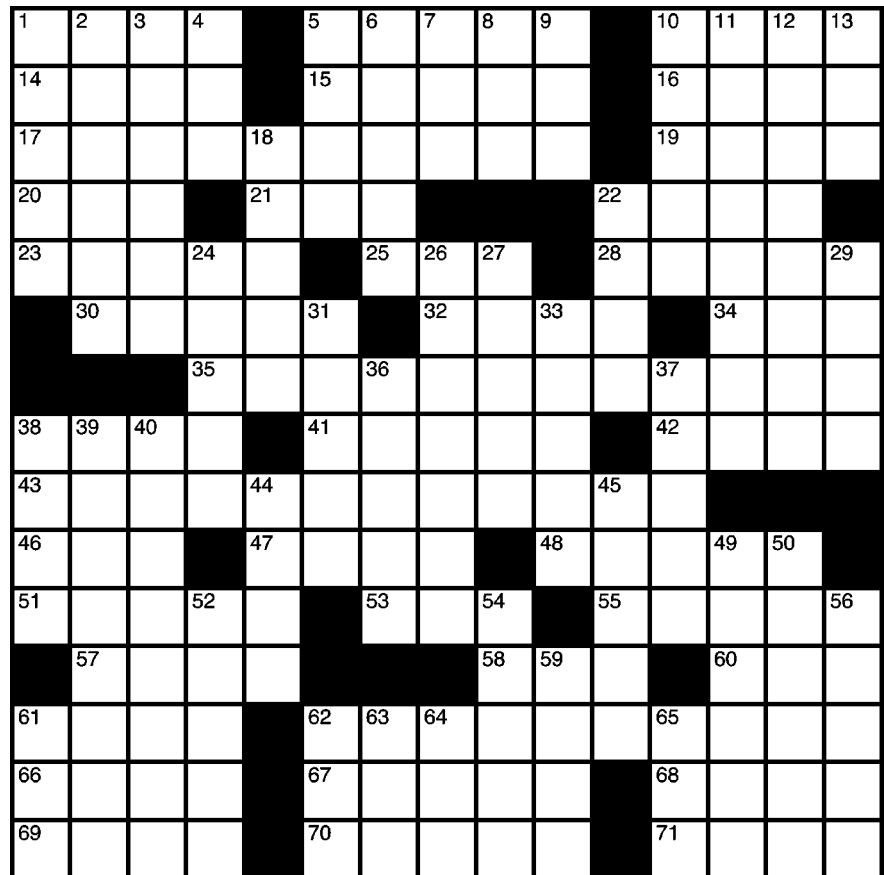
Across

- 1 "And another thing ..."
 5 Up on the latest info
 10 Not yet paid
 14 California wine valley
 15 Gathered, as autumn leaves
 16 Tree fruit
 17 Of the poorest quality
 19 The "I" in MIT: Abbr.
 20 Long stretch
 21 Communication syst. for the hearing-impaired
 22 Jury ___
 23 Southern speech quality
 25 Heart exam: Abbr.
 28 One of the five basic tastes
 30 Inventor Howe
 32 River through southern Russia
 34 Armed conflict
 35 Novel or short story, say
 38 "If I may cut in ..."

- 41 Typically reddish-brown ape
 42 Varieties
 43 Fashionable dude
 46 "The A-Team" muscleman
 47 Pet food brand
 48 Bottle parts
 51 "Waiting for Lefty" playwright Clifford
 53 Capote nickname
 55 Calendar periods
 57 Canadian tribe
 58 Sgt., e.g.
 60 Zero
 61 Dog treat
 62 Well-hit line drive, in baseball jargon
 66 Choice on the fairway
 67 Ruined
 68 Big Apple stage award
 69 Like morning grass
 70 Well-practiced
 71 Politician Romney

Down

- 1 Fed the pot
 2 Pakistani city
 3 Kind of column or cord
 4 Dinghy blade
 5 Fly ball paths
 6 2008 Pixar robot
 7 Letters before an alias
 8 Hi-__ graphics
 9 Magazine VIPs
 10 Poppy narcotic
 11 Left the 44-Down sans permission
 12 Patsy
 13 Richard Gere title role
 18 __ Lama
 22 Fittingly
 24 The name Fred yells at the end of "The Flintstones" closing theme song
 26 Museum manager
 27 Research funding
 29 Bugs
 31 Happy hour perch
 33 Noble gas
 36 Blow up
 37 Pained reaction
 38 Rifle range rounds
 39 Dyed-in-the-wool
 40 Words to click on at a sweepstakes website
 44 Army outpost
 45 Cry of victory
 49 Jedi Master Obi-Wan ___
 50 "Never mind" ... or what one might do with the last word of 17-, 35-, 43- and 62-Across
 52 Itsy-bitsy
 54 Open, as a parka
 56 Icy precipitation
 59 Small change
 61 eBay action
 62 Big Pharma watchdog: Abbr.
 63 Cleared (of)
 64 Poem of praise
 65 CD-__



Olde Saratoga Word Find

By Frank J. D'Agostino (solution page 30)

Find these words that are associated with a cafe.

- Aroma
- Barista
- Beans
- Brew
- Café

- Caffeine
- Cappuccino
- Cinnamon
- Cocoa
- Coffee
- Cream
- Cups
- Decaf

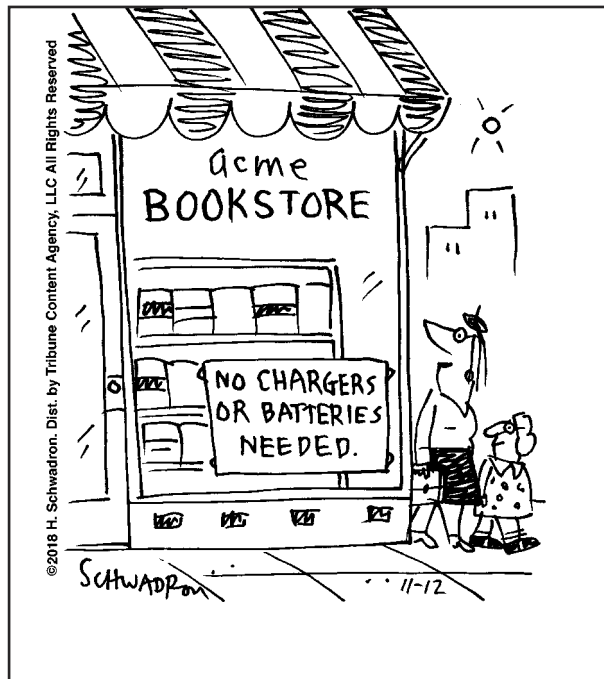
- Espresso
- Froth
- Hazelnut
- Iced
- Java
- Latte
- Milk
- Mint

- Mocha
- Music
- Newspaper
- Nutmeg
- Roasted
- Stirrer
- Sugar
- Syrup

- Teas
- Vanilla
- Wi-Fi

Find Mr. D'Agostino's puzzle books on Amazon.com.

9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



Salem Sudoku

(solution page 30)

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 4 | | | | 7 |
| | | | 8 | 5 | | | 2 | |
| 8 | 6 | | | | 7 | | | 4 |
| | 3 | | 5 | | | | 7 | |
| | | 6 | | | | 5 | | 3 |
| | 4 | | | | 3 | | 8 | |
| 4 | | | 9 | | | | 3 | 5 |
| | 9 | | | 8 | 4 | | | |
| 3 | | | | 7 | | | | |

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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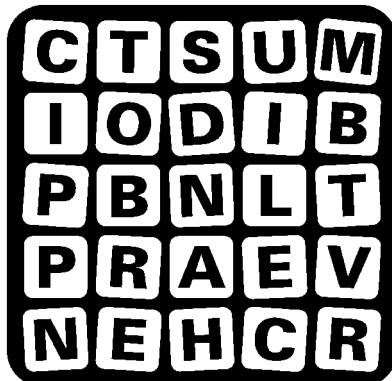
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Boggle
BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



**BUPH
WOIS
GOKE
AGLM**

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST SEVEN CHEMICAL ELEMENTS FROM THE PERIODIC TABLE in the grid of letters.

Answers to Boggle BrainBusters: SODIUM IODINE HELIUM CARBON COBALT COPPER SILVER

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TV shows adapt to restrictions

Michael Schneider
Variety
Special to Journal & Press

Before “The Bachelor,” “Dancing With the Stars,” “American Idol” or any of the other network competition shows, there was “Who Wants to Be a Millionaire.” The game show was an immediate smash when it premiered in 1999, and was a precursor to the modern unscripted boom.

Soon, “Millionaire” was a regular part of the ABC schedule, attracting up to 30 million viewers and helping skyrocket the Alphabet network to No. 1. But the execs there got greedy, airing “Millionaire” as many as five nights a week. Audiences quickly burned out and by 2002, the primetime edition was canceled. “Millionaire” returned for ABC specials in 2004 and 2009, and lived on in a syndicated daytime version until last year.

Now, with the daytime version out of the way, original executive producer Michael Davies — who first brought the U.K. format to America as an ABC exec — believes the timing is right to reintroduce audiences to “Millionaire.” He even recruited Jimmy Kimmel, whom Davies first hired on Comedy Central’s “Win Ben Stein’s Money,” to take over from Regis Philbin as host. ABC will air eight episodes of a new Celebrity edition of “Millionaire” starting April 8.

“I think ‘Millionaire’ is one of the most perfect games ever invented,” says Davies, who departed the syndicated version after he felt it moved too far away from the original game’s concept. “I didn’t want to change the format. I didn’t want to stray from the classic 15 questions. I always think games need to be adjusted and modified, but you don’t throw out the whole thing.”

In a bit of happenstance, Sony — which owns Davies’ production company, Embassy Row — also controls “Millionaire” in the rest of the world, while Disney/ABC still has the U.S. rights, thanks to Davies all those years ago. After a U.K. revival of “Millionaire” did well, Davies pitched ABC on a new, modern take on the show — as well as an app that viewers can use to play along and win at home.

“He came in and said, ‘You know, this was always supposed to be a special event that you do a few times a year,’” says ABC alternative series senior VP Rob Mills. “[ABC] wanted more, and then unfortunately burned it out. And he said, ‘Survivor’ is still on, ‘The Bachelor’ is still on, ‘Idol’ is still on — all the shows from that first unscripted wave are still there. ‘Millionaire’ should be on, and I agreed with him.”

‘You could easily underestimate how great he was.’

For the revival, Davies brought back the show’s original orchestral music, updated its “spaceship” set and added an “ask the host” lifeline that was implemented on the U.K. show. And since they were playing for charities, the celebrity contestants — who include Will Arnett, Dr. Phil, Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen — were also allowed to bring along the “smartest person they know” to help with the first 10 questions.

But the biggest change is Kimmel, who had originally appeared on a celebrity edition in 2001 and has become friends with Philbin over the years.



“You could easily underestimate how great he was,” Kimmel says of his predecessor. “But what he did was not easy. And he was really the perfect host at that time to bring in a huge audience.”

Davies says he has considered Kimmel the heir apparent for Philbin’s chair ever since that 2001 appearance, and Philbin — who appears in promos for the “Millionaire” revival — has given his blessing.

Kimmel says his relationship with Davies and his love of “Millionaire” made it an easy choice to take the gig. “It’s a great game,” he says. “And I know that, because I play it with my 5-year-old and my 2-year-old. We watched a cut of the show and they were glued to the television. When little kids are interested in something for adults, you’ve really got something powerful on your hands.”

“Millionaire” returns after ABC earned a ratings bump in January for its “Jeopardy: Greatest of All Time” primetime special. The network opted for an April bow in order to premiere “Millionaire” out of the “Modern Family” series finale.

But the timing also now comes as audiences, stuck at home in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, are watching more broadcast TV.

The production of “Millionaire” came down to the wire: It was shot the weekend of March 14, without a studio audience, right before stay-at-home directives were issued. “If it had been a day later, I don’t know that we would have gotten it done,” Mills says. It’s very much of the moment: Expect to see elbow bumps and air hugs as celebrities avoid physical contact.

“We moved really fast,” Davies says. “We accelerated the schedule and delivered more than eight episodes worth of material by the end of our second shooting day, so we were able to cancel our third shooting day. That was to allow some of our crew and staff, who had traveled from the East Coast, and some of them from the U.K., to get on planes and get home to their families.”

Without the audience, it was up to the 15 or so staff and crew members situated around the

continued on next page

Village Happenings

Right in our backyard!

Pam Fuller
Journal & Press

Spring is just about here, and we've had a few beautiful teaser days of warm, sunny weather.

But this spring is different for all of us, and after a month of restricting contact with others and experiencing uncertainty about our health and economic welfare, I think we're all feeling cooped up and restless.



Luckily for those of us living in Washington County, we have abundant outdoor resources where we can be outside, breathing the air and moving through our beautiful landscape. Thunder Mountain is one of those places. It's a three-season area, since the access road isn't plowed through the winter.

Thunder Mountain is the location of the former water reservoir for the Village of Greenwich. This approximately 140-acre property was deeded to the Union Village Waterworks in 1887, and to the Village in 1957. Generations of people have enjoyed it. The property is off of North Road, about a mile up from the intersection of Gray Avenue and Prospect Street. The access road to the Village of Greenwich Thunder Mountain Recreation Area is marked by a red metal gate, just a few hundred feet before Derby Road.

The beauty of the site for the Village of Greenwich is its proximity. Literally a mile from the Village, Thunder Mountain offers short connecting trails through magical woods, with the gift of a beautiful view of the valley at the top. If you're looking for a workout, you can get one on the hilly trails. The trails are perfect, too, for a family hike, even if your family includes young children. They're also perfect for a midday break from sitting at a computer, or participating in digital meetings.

Thanks to the work of a group of local volunteers, the trails are well marked. The yellow trail is the original path to the summit, and the newer red trail takes you up to the eastern border of the property.

The reservoir is a tranquil spot to sit



and contemplate the reflections on the water. Or bring some food and enjoy it at one of the picnic tables. Or bring your fishing pole and sit on the dock. This is our place; take advantage of the beauty!

Pam Fuller is Mayor of the Village of Greenwich.



TV adapts (cont.)

set to provide reactions. "Initially that was very concerning to me, because you're a comedian and you want to get laughs," Kimmel says. "But about 10 minutes in, I could see that it was gonna work anyway. I did radio for a long time, and when you're alone in a radio studio, nobody's laughing. You

just have to have some kind of confidence that what you're saying will be funny to people watching at home.

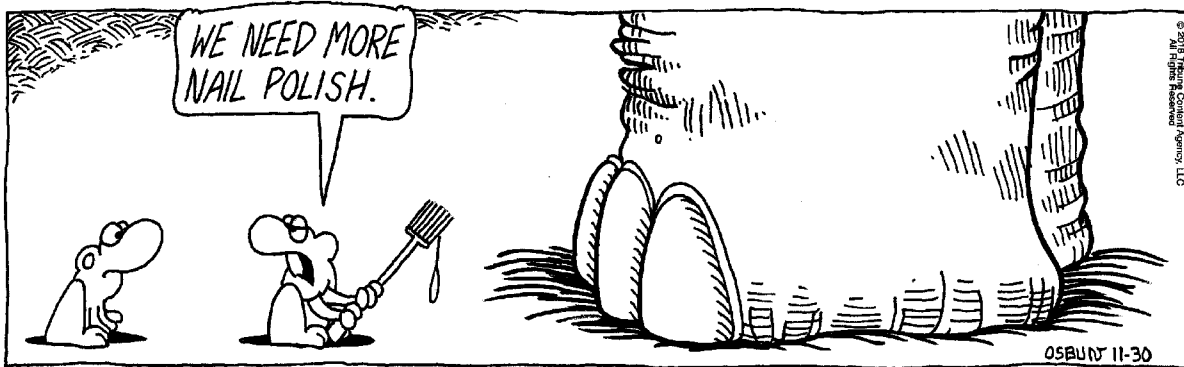
Otherwise, you wind up tap dancing and stumbling, so I kind of went with the drama and kept the jokes between myself and the players. And I think it came out well."

As for what's next, Davies would like to bring "Millionaire" back twice a year — once

with celebrities, and once with regular contestants. Adds Kimmel: "I would love to give it a try with a studio audience. I think that it's just the perfect formula for comedy. I'm hoping that the show is a hit and that they want to do more of them because I will say — and I rarely say this — that I genuinely enjoyed doing it."

The Funny Page

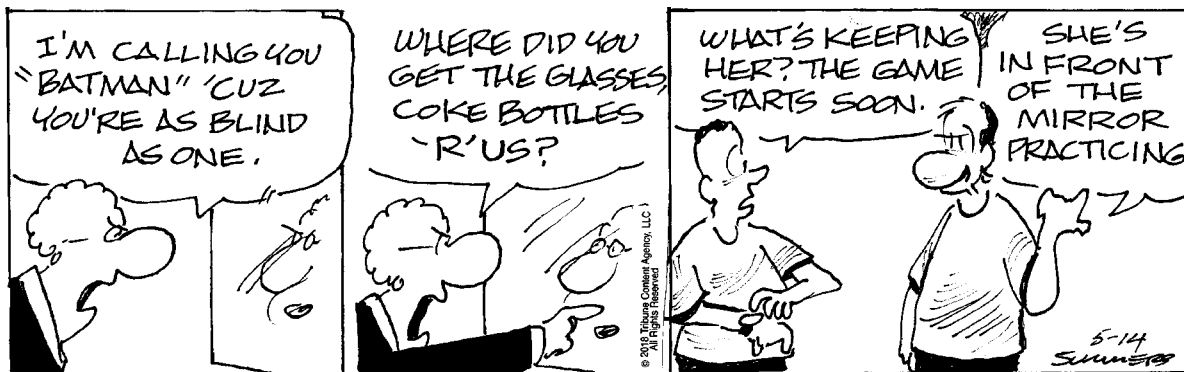
Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



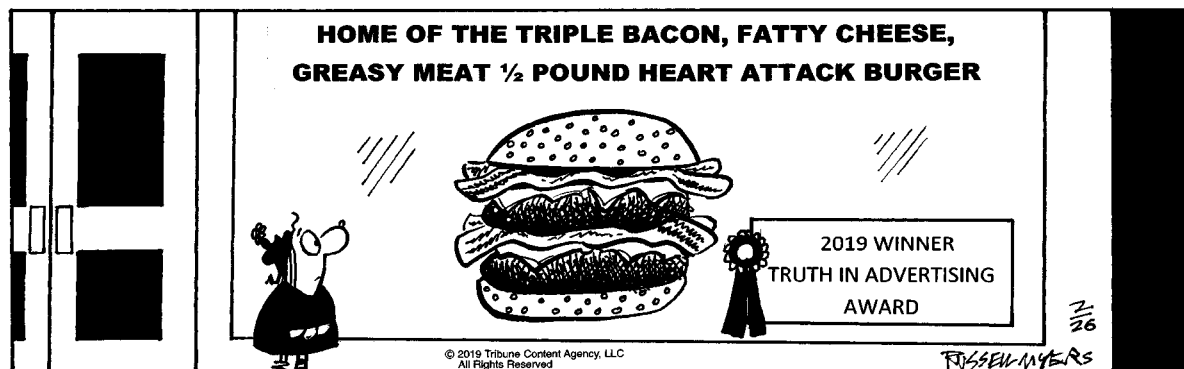
Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



Bound & Gagged by Dana Summers



Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



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| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| A ₁ | E ₁ | O ₁ | R ₁ | C ₃ | P ₃ | M ₃ | RACK 1 |
| A ₁ | U ₁ | S ₁ | L ₁ | F ₄ | K ₅ | C ₃ | Triple Word Score RACK 2 |
| A ₁ | E ₁ | I ₁ | U ₁ | D ₂ | D ₂ | N ₁ | RACK 3 |
| A ₁ | E ₁ | Y ₄ | N ₁ | L ₁ | P ₃ | P ₃ | 1st Letter Double RACK 4 |
| A ₁ | I ₁ | O ₁ | N ₁ | R ₁ | R ₁ | C ₃ | RACK 5 |

PAR SCORE 260-270
BEST SCORE 346
FIVE RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION PAGE 30

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com 01-19

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

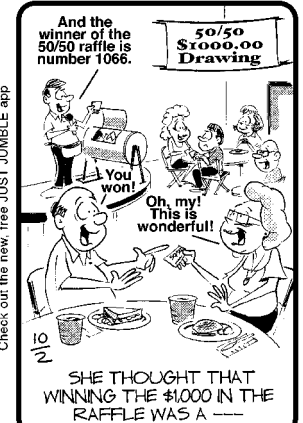
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZAGEL

DIRGI

FORTPI

AGENTE



Ans. here: ○○○○○○ ○○○○○○

Answers: Jumbles: GLAZE RIGID PROFIT NEGATE | Answer: She thought that winning the \$1,000 in the raffle was a — GRAND PRIZE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | L | S | O | A | W | A | R | E | O | W | E | D |
| N | A | P | A | R | A | K | E | D | P | E | A | R |
| T | H | I | R | D | C | L | A | S | I | N | S | T |
| E | O | N | A | S | L | D | U | T | Y | | | |
| D | R | A | W | L | E | C | G | U | M | A | M | I |
| E | L | I | A | S | U | R | A | L | W | A | R | |
| L | I | T | E | R | A | R | Y | W | O | R | K | |
| A | H | E | M | O | R | A | N | G | I | L | K | S |
| M | A | N | A | B | O | U | T | T | O | W | N | |
| M | R | T | A | L | P | O | N | E | C | K | S | |
| O | D | E | T | S | T | R | U | W | E | E | K | S |
| C | R | E | E | N | C | O | N | I | L | | | |
| B | O | N | E | F | R | O | Z | E | N | R | O | P |
| I | R | O | N | D | I | D | I | N | O | B | I | E |
| D | E | W | Y | A | D | E | P | T | M | I | T | T |

Pantry fundraiser to go online

As many may know, in a few weeks Comfort Food Community would be launching their 7th annual Give Hunger the Boot fundraising campaign. Due to risks associated with the COVID-19 crisis, the organization has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's campaign and all related events.

Like many, they are disappointed to have to miss out on traditions that are very important to our community. Community Engagement Coordinator, Haley Graves, comments: "Give Hunger the Boot is something that we look forward to every year. It is a treasured time that brings people together and reminds us how amazing our community is."

As an attempt to keep the spirit of their annual campaign, they are excited to announce that Comfort Food Community will be launching 'KICK COVID': a virtual, peer-to-peer fundraising campaign supporting the programming and services of CFC.

As the organization moves through these difficult and uncertain times, it is critical that they continue their fundraising efforts. CFC could use your support now more than ever, so they put on their thinking caps and figured out how to create an engaging and meaningful campaign – from a distance!

By joining KICK COVID not only will you be contributing to the health and well-being of our community, you can also encourage your friends and family to do the same with the opportunity to create your own KICK COVID fundraising campaign. As a fundraiser, you can set your own goal and invite your peers to contribute and share the mission of Comfort Food Community. To learn more about "peer to peer fundraising" visit: www.comfortfoodcommunity.org and follow the "KICK COVID" link under "DONATE."

Comfort Food Community is hopeful that by



Volunteer Marlene O'Donnell prepares groceries for curbside pantry pick-up.

adapting to the challenges at hand, they can still find the comradery, joy and community spirit that Give Hunger the Boot brings our community every year. "We need your help to achieve this. Together, we can KICK COVID," Graves adds.

No campaign? No problem! You can make a single donation via the DONATE link on their website (mentioned above) or mail a check to P.O. Box 86 Greenwich, N.Y. 12834.

Curator wanted

The Board of Directors of the Cambridge Historical Society on Broad St. in Cambridge, NY is currently taking applications for the position of Curator.

The Society maintains a small but exquisite museum in a beautiful Victorian home which houses a collection of historical items, antiques and archives assembled from local families. The museum is provisionally chartered by the State of New York Department of Education.

The Curator has the exciting role of preserving the history of the greater Cambridge area, working with the Board of Directors, Society members, community groups and individuals. The position allows a person to work in a pleasant environment with flexible hours.

The creed of our museum is to "Gather, protect, preserve and communicate our history". The motto is "Saving Our History, Honoring Our Past".

If interested or for more information, please call (518) 677-8244.

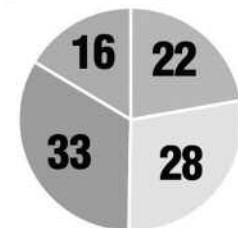
Your mental health during pandemic

Health experts are concerned about the potential mental health effects of the coronavirus outbreak in the United States, and mental health hotlines report a substantial uptick in calls since the outbreak began.

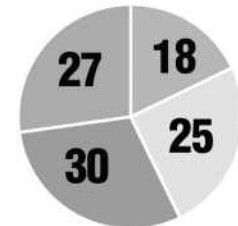
The % saying that in the past seven days they have felt ...

- Most of the time
- Occasionally
- Little of the time
- None of the time

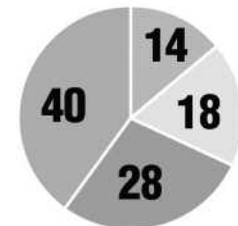
Hopeful about the future



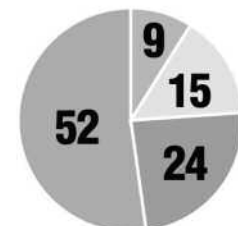
Nervous, anxious or on edge



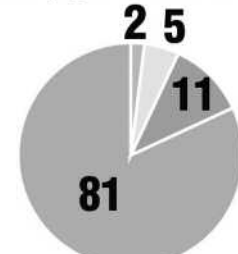
Had trouble sleeping



Felt depressed



Had a physical reaction



Source: Pew Research Center
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Letters: Food help and the bridge

SNAP Is Here to Help

Dear Editor,

People who are working but are not getting enough hours, or who are looking for a job, may be eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

SNAP helps many working families in New York stretch their food budget. When you are working hard but still can't make ends meet, SNAP can help. SNAP also helps communities by bringing needed sales to local grocery stores, bodegas, and farmers markets.

The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) can help you learn if you may be eligible for SNAP. NOEP can also help you complete and submit your application.

For more information, contact your local NOEP Coordinator at 518-587-5188 ext. 408.

Sincerely,

Corinne McCauley

The Legal Aid Society of
Northeastern New York

40 New Street, Sartaoga
Springs, New York 12866

A Bridge to the Future

Dear Editor,

There has been much debate about the sidewalk on the new bridge being built on Route 29 near the entrance to the Bat-

tenkill Country Club. I am a planner and economic development consultant. Some thoughts:

1. This isn't being built for the present, it's being built for the future – as any infrastructure project is. To say it is/is not relevant now is not how these decisions are made. It gives us the opportunity for our community to ask: How do we want

**'If you build it,
it will be used.
Get it done now.'**

this area to develop in the future?

2. To solely depend on a car for transportation, even in a rural community, lacks forethought in a time of global climate crisis. Diversification is good business sense, regardless if you are talking product lines or transportation methods. It also assumes community members 1.) are able to drive and 2.) can afford a car, maintenance, insurance, gas, etc. Developing infrastructure for the most vulnerable in our community ensures access for everyone and frankly is what I hope local government would strive for.

3. Businesses are more frequently patronized when the speed limit is 30 vs 45. Lower-

ing the speed limit far beyond the entrance to the village makes good business sense. This is not a thoroughfare, it's our community.

4. If you build it, it will be used. Bike and pedestrian infrastructure is used to the extent it is available. To build it however, is often peace meal and difficult. Getting the sidewalk done now is one step towards supporting the cluster of business at the junction of 40/29 through other transportation options, and gives rise to in-



Slowing traffic is good for business.

creasing this business cluster. This is one step to creating overall pedestrian connectivity in the community.

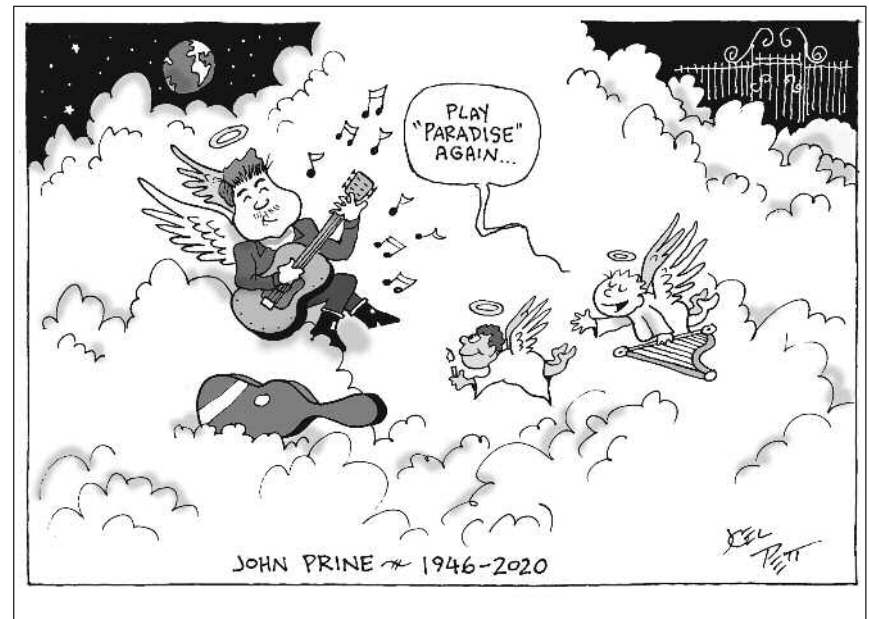
Sincerely,

Amie Collins

Tax Paying Resident

Town of Greenwich

Political Cartoon of the Week by Joel Pett



Letters policy

Letters to the Editor should be 300 or fewer words and emailed to editor@journalandpress.com. They must be signed and written by local residents about local issues. Letters by or about political candidates are discouraged. Please buy an ad instead. Otherwise, we welcome your opinions!

Write stories. Get published.
Reach people.



Contact editor@journalandpress.com with your story!



Obituaries

Harold John Lutgens, 97, banker, veteran

Harold John Lutgens, of Hermitage, Pa, passed away on April 5, 2020, at 5:20 p.m. in the emergency room of UPMC Jameson in New Castle, PA. He was 97.

On December 11, 1922, he was born in New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York, a son to George and Mildred Lutgens.

Harold grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. and lived in Massapequa, Long Island, N.Y., before moving to Greenwich, NY to be with his son, Kurt Lutgens. He later relocated to Hermitage to be near his other son Karl Lutgens. There, he became a member of the Faith Presbyterian Church of Hermitage. Mr. Lut-

gen's final residence was at Clen Moore Place in New Castle, Pa.

After serving in the US Navy from October 29, 1942 until January 1, 1946, Harold went on to marry Mildred Herreilers Lutgens on January 29, 1949.

He enjoyed traveling with his wife, and together, they walked the Great Wall of China, sailed up the Amazon River and walked on a glacier in Alaska. Every summer, two weeks were spent camping at Shawtown, Ossipee in New Hampshire, Harold's favorite place.

Harold worked as an Auditing Officer for the Bank of Manhattan, which became Chase Bank, and is now known as JP

Morgan Chase. After 37 years of service, he retired in May of 1978.

As a young boy, Harold relished cheering for the Brooklyn Dodgers and sitting in the bleachers for 15 cents! He enjoyed watching sports, and in later years, cheered for the Steelers.

Harold is survived by his sons, Dr. Kurt Lutgens and his wife Gretchen of Greenwich, N.Y.; Karl Lutgens and his wife JoAnn of New Wilmington, Pa; 6 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred, who passed away on December 19, 2014.

Due to the Covid-19 quaran-



tine, there presently no funeral arrangements; however, the Lutgens family will congregate sometime in the future to celebrate Harold's amazing life.

Marta Consuelo Góchez y Morrison, 84

Marta Consuelo Góchez y Morrison (Marta C. Morrison), 84, of Orlando Fla., died April 6, 2020.

There was a Christian Mass held at Flynn Bros., Inc. Funeral Home in Greenwich on Monday April 13th. Interment followed at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Greenwich.

A native of Santa Tecla, El Salvador, Marta was born May 18, 1935, the daughter of the late Consuelo Estaben and Raúl Góchez.

An intelligent and independ-

ent woman, Marta made a courageous decision to come to the United States to complete her higher education. She attended one year at the American University in Washington, D.C., and two years at D'Youville women's college in Buffalo, New York. It was at a Niagara University dance where she met her future husband Harold "Sonny" Morrison. After a two year separation while Sonny served in the US Army, they were reunited and married at St. Joseph's church in Greenwich, N.Y., in 1957.

They had four children.

Marta always created a circle of friends wherever she made a home from Albany, N.Y., to Puerto Rico, and for 34 years in Racine, WI. Marta and Harold retired to an active adult community in Poinciana, FL. There she enjoyed hours of playing Mah Jong, gardening, and discovering new restaurants and shops with friends. Marta deeply loved her family and enriched the lives of all who knew her. Her spirit and smile were contagious and memorable. A devout Catholic, her faith provided much strength, belief, and a light that burned bright.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by two sons, Harold and Gary Morrison, two brothers, and a sister in law Raúl (Ana Maria) and Mauricio Góchez.



Survivors include her children; Ronald (Therese) and JoAnn Morrison; grandchildren, Melinda (Stephen) Wilson and John (Kim) Morrison; and great grandchildren, Sienna and James Wilson.

Obituaries policy

The Journal & Press does not charge for obituaries from the families of longtime subscribers. Please send to editor@journalandpress.com. They should be under 400 words. If schedules permit, we may be able to write an original piece. Contact us for that possibility. If you are going through a loss, we offer our sincerest condolences.

A new life during the pandemic

Irene Baldwin
Journal & Press

Weeks ago when the Coronavirus Pandemic that had reached our country was in its earliest stages, I felt worried, but not panicked. As the days went on and the news became more and more ominous, the full impact of what we were facing began to fill me with fear and anxiety. The ever-climbing death toll alarms me. Will we ever be safe again? I am especially concerned about my three sons and their families. Even though I am a member of one of the more vulnerable age groups, I am fortunate to live in a rural area where I can go outside, do lawn work, feed my horses and enjoy nature without coming into close contact with anyone.

My sister Jean, a seamstress, made me a four layered mask and I wear gloves when going to the grocery store. I keep in touch with family and friends by phone. I play music, listen to WAMC, watch television at night and as always, read, read and read some more. I have a nice stockpile of books to keep me happy. But I will admit, I am lonely at times and at loose ends. How many closets and cabinets do I have to clean and rearrange?

The cycles of life and death continue, but they are more amplified. My beloved pug and companion of fourteen years, Churchill, lost his fight with age on March 30th. I am grate-

ful for the kindness and gentleness of Dr. Mary Menard of Borador Animal Hospital in Salem as we said goodbye to my friend and sent him on his way across the Rainbow Bridge. Churchill is now resting by his best friend Diego at the end of my yard next to Little White Creek. I miss his funny ways and loving presence. My Second Chance girl, Frida, has become a new comfort and welcome addition to my life. She is lively and so different from Churchill.

A few years ago I interviewed centenarian Florence Walrath, a fellow horsewoman, who was healthy and sharp. She told me about the Influenza pandemic that had ravaged the world killing more than forty million in 1918. This experience she described seemed very far away from me at the time. Florence herself had contracted the virus as a young girl; her whole family had been quarantined. Many relatives died and Florence was so sick, she thought she would die as well. I wonder what Florence would think about these days?

My son Aaron, his two children, Noah and Aksa and his wife Adriana live in Queens close to the epicenter of the virus. Their world has shrunk considerably. No more walks to explore their Forest Hills neighborhood or enjoy the closeness of the Flushing Meadows Park, home to the 1939 and 1964 World's Fairs. Their students must now engage with lessons remotely through Google classroom by computer an often necessary, but unsatisfying endeavor. Aaron's biology classroom, the best high school science classroom I have ever been in, is now off-limits to him and his students. The two turtles, bearded dragon, guinea pigs, plants and fish who live there are now taken care of by the school's custodians.

My youngest son Edward, his wife Lindsay and son Bodie live in Santa Rosa Beach on the Florida Panhandle. Their long walks on the beaches by the crystal clear Gulf waters have been cancelled. The beaches are patrolled and no one is allowed to access the beauty except when passing by in a car. Florida's borders are

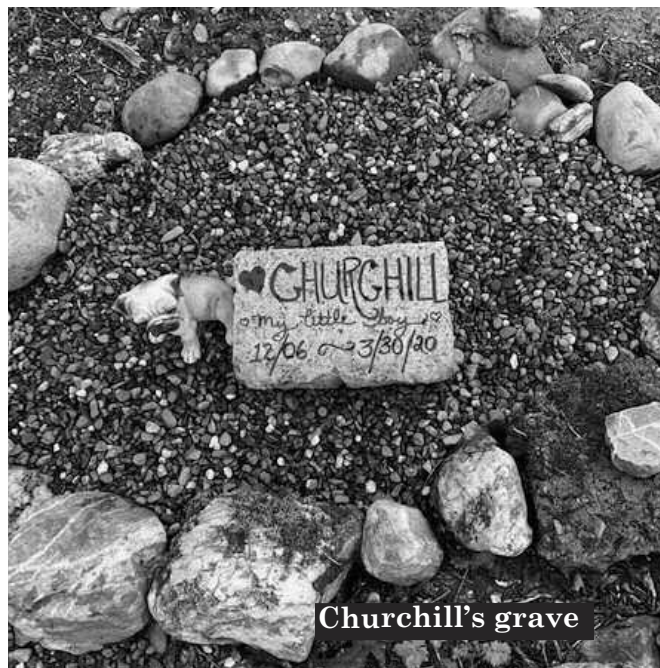
closed. Edward is still able to do his work as a contractor; he is grateful for the opportunity. My planned Florida trip is on hold for now and I have no idea when I will be able to see my four year old grandson except on Face-Time. I am so very appreciative for this technology!

My son Andrew and his wife Sangeeta are still working as engineers at Mack Molding in Arlington, Vermont. The company is considered an essential business because they produce medical products. My two grandsons connect with me each day by video calls. Ravi, a third grader, reads from the first Harry Potter novel and Sohan, a second grader, reads from *Downdog* and *Captain Underpants*. I

look forward to these young readers acquiring new vocabulary and growing fluency. We laugh and have a good time. I miss the hugs. My daughter-in-law's niece, Alisha, who is in her final year at CCS, will not have the excitement, fun and recognition of the final few months of being a senior. She is a diligent student and keeps up with her schoolwork each day.

There is an element of the surreal about living through this pandemic. Life is very different now, but there are echoes from a century ago. We don't know when things will be back to normal. My thought is that the world will never be the same, at least in my limited years left. I am missing my family, book club, writing group, women's club, lunch with friends, travel and being close to people. And of course, I miss visits to consignment and thrift stores! But I am safe, at least for now. My heart hurts for those who have died and for the many people (all of us) who have been affected by COVID-19. I am taking this time to reflect, be introspective, and remember. Wishing all of my fellow area residents peace and good health as we go through these difficult times separated, but together. *Carpe Diem!*

Irene Baldwin is a long-time resident of Cambridge. She is a writer and a retired teacher of English. She grew up and attended school in Salem.



Churchill's grave

The ‘Year of Lateral Thinking’

Annie Miller
Journal & Press

In 2005, Joan Didon published *The Year of Magical Thinking*, an instant classic that chronicled her life as she simultaneously mourned the death of her husband and coped with her daughter’s illness. The magical thinking of the title refers to the human tendency to believe that if we wish for something hard enough or do some particular thing, we can change the present or stave off the inevitable future. Right now, many are mourning the deaths of friends and loved ones or coping with illness. Even more of us are trying to manage lives turned upside down, missing social connections and facing job losses. We are meeting these challenges with an interesting blend of magical and lateral thinking.

The magical thinking has come mostly in the form of denial. Assertions that the world is as we wish it to be, rather than as doctors, scientists and other people who have spent years of their lives studying these things, tell us it is. Libraries, which have long been in the business of bursting bubbles of denial with sharp, pointy facts, have been creating more and better ways to access reliable information while pundits ignore an avalanche of evidence,

college students frolic on beaches and families go out recreation shopping. There has also been a surge in scams touting miracle cures for COVID-19 “that doctors don’t want you to know about” and “insider” ways to get unemployment and other payments fast. Scams work because we all want to believe that there is a way to beat the system. As talking heads backpedal and claim they have been taking the pandemic seriously all along and D-list celebrities are forced to close down their snake oil sites, librarians indulge in a little magical hope that reason and facts will make a resurgence in our national discourse.

While hope can exist without evidence, optimism requires

‘While hope can exist without evidence, optimism requires back up.’

something to back it up. And there is reason to be optimistic. In the midst of all the turmoil and loss, we are seeing an amazing surge of creativity and activism. Enabled by the internet, groups have formed to make medical equipment at kitchen tables and work benches. Young people are doing grocery shopping for the

elderly and health-compromised. People are singing (And, in Greenwich, howling.) together from their front porches and balconies. So-

cial media is filled with images of creativity that ranges from the ridiculous to the sublime. It turns out that we have great reserves of ingenuity and passion to call on.

Using cell phones and the internet, we have adapted with amazing speed to circumstances that would have thoroughly devastated the country 30 years ago. People aren’t delighted to sit through 15 Zoom meetings a day or to compete with family members for bandwidth but, for many of us, it is doable. We are thinking laterally and recreating the way we do our lives. People who have the equipment but not the connection have been haunting libraries and other places with open WiFi. In Greenwich, the library parking lot has hosted Facebook checkups, email flurries and download sessions. Recent standouts

have been a musician giving an online lesson while balancing a cell phone and a musical score on her dashboard and a minivan with two littles watching a movie in the back seat while dad pounded on his laptop in front. We are finding ways to make it work.

And what of books? The Greenwich Free Library closed in March. During our last three days, when we were encouraging people to take as many books as they could carry, we checked out 1,027 items. That’s compared to 415 during the same three days the week before when things were starting to shut down and 351 the week before that, when life seemed as if it would go on as normal. Library books were the one thing we could feel good about asking people to “panic

buy.” Checkouts ran the gamut from fun mysteries, romances and westerns to literary tomes and brain-busting nonfiction. People were truly alarmed at the prospect of having nothing new to read.

Of course, there is always the online library. Ebooks and e-audiobooks are still available 24/7 and can be downloaded and read or listened to on just about anything from a basic smart phone to a desktop computer. For those who have resisted them, these new packages contain the same great stuff; everything from picture books to guides for business planning. Interestingly, recent checkouts have leaned heavily towards classic literature. Getting access is easier than ever with ebook instacards – 350 created so far – and applications for regular library cards online. New to Greenwich this week is Kanopy, an online movie streaming service.

All of these can be accessed through our website www.greenwichfreelibrary.org. If all this online stuff is getting you down, call the library (518) 692-7157 and leave a message, a real human will get back to you as soon as possible.

While we eagerly await the time when we can throw open our doors and see our friends and neighbors again, we are working hard behind the scenes to make sure the community has access to reliable information, great literature and fun entertainment. We hope you can use these as the tools and inspiration to overcome the challenges that require lateral, rather than magical, thinking.

Annie Miller
is director of
the Greenwich
Free Library.



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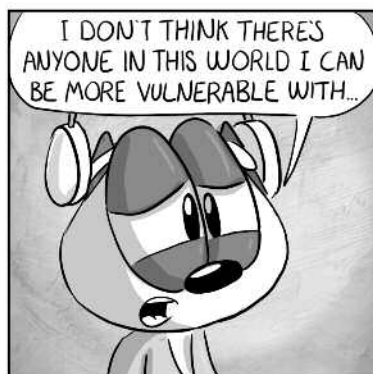
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LEGAL NOTICE/NOTICE OF FORMATION

The McNeice Family Farm LLC filed articles of organization with the Department of State on February 7th, 2020. Its principal office is in Washington County, New York. The Secretary of State of the State of New York has been designated as agent upon whom service of process against the LLC may be served, and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of process in any action or proceeding against the Company is 45 Edie Road, Greenwich, Washington County, New York. The purpose of the Company is to engage in any lawful activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under § 203 of the Limited Liability Company Act. 4/1, 4/16, 5/1

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