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# JOURNAL & PRESS

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**DOUBLE ISSUE!**  
May 1-15, 2020



**NEW TO TOWN 9**



**A VIRTUAL GOV'T 23**



**A BLESSED IDEA 2**



**SAGE 9**

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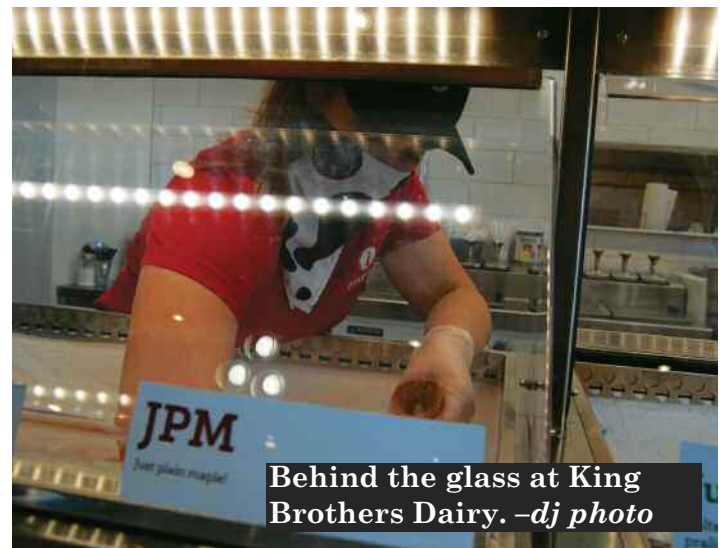
JournalandPress.com

## How farms survive

**In crisis, local agricultural institutions look for new revenue streams.**

It's a time like no other that we have ever lived through. However, for farmers, where so much is done outside – they have another take on the coronavirus pandemic. While life on the farm itself has mostly stayed the same, the pandemic has affected a lot of the retail aspects of their businesses. Here's how some of them are adapting. It's time to get creative.

**Please read more on page 3**

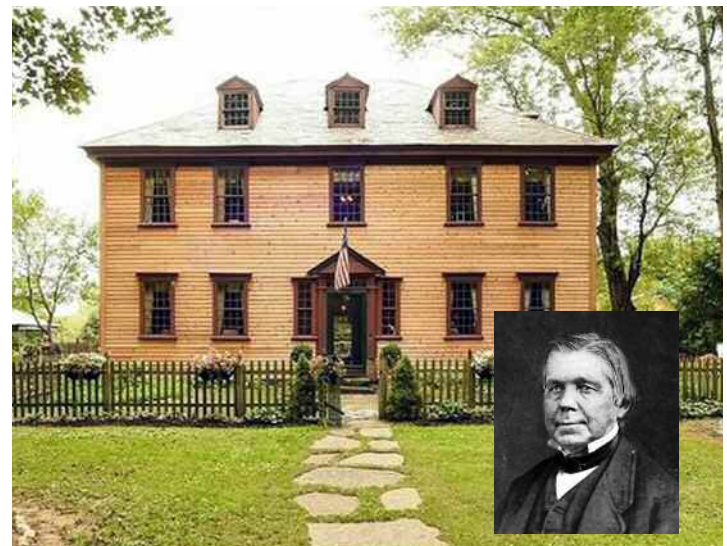


**Behind the glass at King Brothers Dairy. -dj photo**

## Who was Asa Fitch?

Learn more about Asa Fitch Sr. and Asa Fitch Jr. (pictured) and the home and "Bug House" they'd built locally. The part of Salem where the house is located, adjacent to the confluence of the Black Creek with the Battenkill, has long been known as Fitch's Point. The younger Fitch became an entomologist of national acclaim.

**Please read more on page 11**



The Schuylerville  
Turning Point

FIND US IN THESE STORES:



**OUR  
REGION'S  
HISTORY  
- TODAY**

# A 'shack' in the woods, full of food

**Darren Johnson**  
*Journal & Press*

Holly Harris, owner of Windy Hill C-B-D, had just used the little shed on her property for her hemp-based products, but in late April she had an idea. Why not fill it with food and toiletries and make it a no-questions-asked spot for needy people during this current COVID-19 crisis? So, she called it the Blessing Shack and created a Facebook page for it and the public heartily responded. Many people quickly stocked it; some people in need have stopped by and benefitted from it. Here's our Q&A:

**J&P:** *How does one find your pantry?*

**HH:** The Blessing Shack is conveniently located at 312 Windy Hill Road in Greenwich Town, about one mile down on the left off of Route 29. The location is perfect as it is very discreet. The only person who may see you is me and my pups. I love the fact the you can come and go

24 hours a day. With it being so close to the road, it just makes it easy for everyone to access.

**J&P:** *Where did you get the idea for this?*

**HH:** The idea came from Facebook and someone mentioned in a post about Schuylerville's Blessing Box. The light went off and I said what if I turned the CBD Shack into a Blessing Shack?

**J&P:** *What's the story behind this building?*

**HH:** The shack was started last year as the home base for Windy Hill CBD oil. When I purchased a building at 106 Main St. in Greenwich, I no longer had use for the shack, as I'd moved the CBD business to the village. I was going to sell the shack, but when COVID-19 hit I put that on hold, and now I am glad I did.

**J&P:** *Your idea has really caught fire.*

**HH:** The support from our

community has been overwhelming. It is amazing how we can all come together and support each other.

**J&P:** *How does the Blessing Shack work?*

**HH:** Take what you need for a day or two and give what you can.

**J&P:** *How can people help?*

**HH:** We are looking for the staples to make a basic meal: milk, bread, eggs, pasta, soup, cereal. All the basics. We also have a hygiene section with soaps, toilet paper, paper towels, feminine products, toothpaste, toothbrushes. We have some books and gently used clothing.



**J&P:** *How long will the Blessing Shack stay stocked?*

**HH:** I will keep open as long as we see the need during the epidemic. There are so many people not working and waiting on unemployment and may be too proud to hit the pantry and will just suffer without asking. This is the perfect solution, and I hope that I do not have to keep it open for long. But if there is a need, it will stay open.



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# Farming in the age of COVID-19

**Natalie Jew**  
*Journal & Press*

It's springtime, which means milk is churning at King Brothers Dairy, maple tappers are collecting syrup at Mapleland Farms and bees are making honey at Betterbee. But while all this is happening in nature, many people are at home, staying inside – and life for a lot of us seems to be at a standstill.

It's a time like no other that we have ever lived through. However, for farmers, where so much is done outside – they have another take on the coronavirus story. While life on the farm itself has mostly stayed the same, the pandemic has affected a lot of the retail aspects of their businesses.

On King Road, just outside of Saratoga Springs, is a small family-run dairy farm and ice cream parlor called King Brothers Dairy in Schuylerville, NY. Everyday they milk close to 900 cows. However, in the wake of the pandemic, and with the prices of dairy dropping, King Brothers Dairy does not know what its next move will be.

"Quite honestly I don't know. I don't have an answer for how we're going to recover from that loss of that business," says one of the brothers and co-owner Jeff King. He is talking about the shutdown of the many restaurants who buy his dairy products. "It's not only going to hit us – it's going to hit every dairy farm, and it's going to be a tremendous impact."

At Mapleland Farms in Salem, NY, because of social distancing, they are looking for other ways to sell their syrup.

"Our sales were zero for two weekends," says national sales manager Mary Jeanne Packer. "We're just in a place to be col-

laborating and we're really finding a lot of creative new ways to work with our neighbors. I'm certainly finding a lot of creative things to cook with apple cinnamon pancake mix."

Without Maple Weekend and potentially the Washington County Fair, Mapleland Farms will not get to see their customers in person as much this year. However, they hope people will use their driveway to say hello and get some syrup.

"People have always come by the farm, especially during this season, to say hello and see what's going on," says Packer. "But the idea of getting out of the house and going for a drive, pulling in the yard, and calling to see if we can run out a half gallon of syrup to their car, is certainly a new concept – and we're happy to do that."

At Betterbee in Greenwich, NY, a beekeeping company that both takes care of bees and sells natural honey products, partner Chris Cripps cannot say how the pandemic has affected his beekeeping business until it's all over. After this pandemic, however, Cripps hopes people will still support local beekeepers.

**'I don't have an answer for how we're going to recover.'**

"I'd encourage people to go find their honey at the green stores, and roadside stands and supermarkets around Greenwich," says Cripps. "Honey is a pretty safe product as far as food goes and it's kind of a nice thing this time a year."

While Betterbee has closed its store, its drive-thru is open



**Sophia Manera of Greenwich working at King Brothers Dairy's ice cream shop on April 25. –dj photos**

to anyone looking to keep bees during the pandemic. To Cripps, it could be something we all do while we social distance.

"Keeping bees is kind of a nice social distancing thing to begin with because people don't usually do it as a group – it's more of a solo hobby," says Cripps. At Betterbee, apiculturists collect honey, pollen and beeswax from hives, look after the queen bee and her brood patterns, and can make homemade products (such as hand cream, candles and soaps).

For King, staying open was a way to lift up the community.

"People can come to the farm

store, they can get an ice cream cone [or] a dish of ice cream and they go back in their car and sit and enjoy it. It's a little break from all this monotony everyday. That's been nice, when people are at least like 'let's go have a little break and let's just enjoy ourselves for a little bit – turn off the worries of the day,'" says King. "We've got a big parking lot so they're able to enjoy their ice cream, sit in their car or stand outside their car and enjoy a little bit of country fresh air."

Every farm I talked to emphasized the importance of

**continued on next page**

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## Farming in the age of COVID-19 (cont.)

safety measures put in place during the pandemic. To Packer, Mapleland Farms takes many precautions when making their syrup.

“We do take food safety very seriously and everything we sell, all of our syrup bottles are at the boiling point — and so there’s just no chance of infection getting into the food,” says Packer. “We [also] do have a pretty stringent set of safety requirements for all our employees before they handle any product that the consumer is going to use.”

As a farm, even amidst a pandemic, everyone there must keep working.

“It’s not possible to work from home when you’re a farmer — there are

animals to be milked and fed and cared for, and crops that need to be grown and land that needs to be prepared for planting in the spring. All of those are essential,” says King. “All farmers are producing food for

**‘It’s not possible to work from home as a farmer.’**

all the consumers out there, and while us farmers are not on the front lines, we’re still doing the heavy lifting of producing food to feed the nation.”



## St. Joseph’s News

To bring St. Joseph’s Sunday liturgy to the homes of the parish, Fr. Ed Kacerguis, interim priest, is broadcasting Sunday Mass on YouTube each week until the church can gather together live. The Mass can be found on YouTube at [www.tinyurl.com/SJG-liturgies](http://www.tinyurl.com/SJG-liturgies). The time of the broadcast is 10 a.m., Sunday mornings and thereafter for the week. Because St. Joseph’s is using YouTube to broadcast our Sunday Mass, anyone that misses the Mass at 10 a.m., the broadcast time, it is available to view at any time afterwards. The parish Facebook page has been established at “St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Greenwich, NY” and the Pastoral Care Ministry continues to make phone calls to senior homebound members to check on them and their needs. St. Joseph’s can be reach by phone at 518-692-2159 or by email at [parish@nycap.rr.com](mailto:parish@nycap.rr.com). You can also get the weekly newsletter by email.

# Whipple Fest nixed; new event instead

After closely monitoring the ever-evolving COVID-19 crisis and the uncertainty it brings, the Board of the Directors of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce has made the difficult decision to cancel the full 28th Annual Whipple City Festival scheduled for June 19-20, 2020.

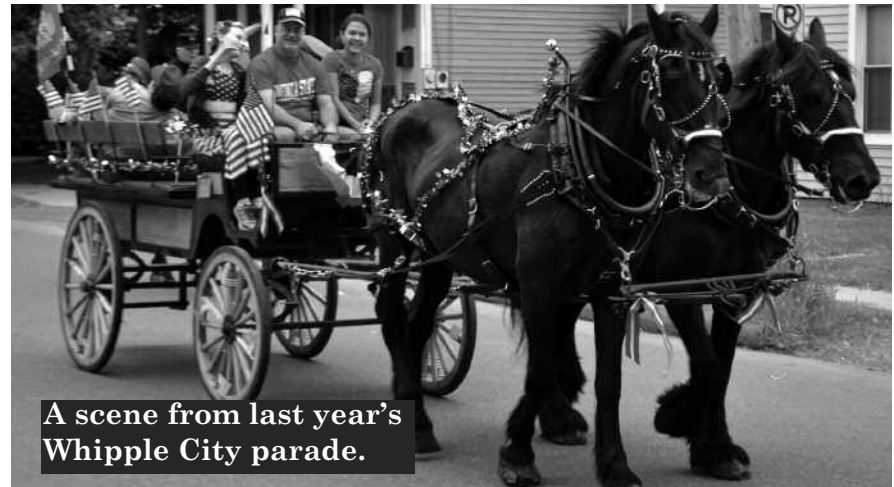
Whipple City Festival is an annual event in June that has taken place in the Village of Greenwich, New York since the early 1990s. What began as a thank you to the local community for their support of our local businesses has become a popular event for the entire southern Washington County area.

“This was a hard decision for the Board of Directors,” said Andrew Kelly, President of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce and Partner at Kelly & Sellar Ryan PLLC. “I can assure you that this decision was not made lightly, but the health

and safety of the community is far more important. While cancelling Whipple City Festival is disheartening, as it is one of the Chamber’s key community events, we feel moving forward would not be in the best interest of volunteers, sponsors, vendors, and guests during this ongoing health and economic crisis.”

In light of the cancellation, a post-crisis event to bring area communities together in support of businesses and organizations is being planned for all of Washington County and beyond.

“During this ongoing crisis, what is clear is the disruption it has had on so many aspects of our daily lives and in our communities,” said Kelly Stephen Eustis, Managing Director of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce. “With a focus on hope and recovery for businesses and organizations in our region, a communitywide event



A scene from last year’s Whipple City parade.

is being organized to reboot our local economy for when restrictions subside.”

The event is called Back to Business! Street Fair where Main Street in the heart of the Village of Greenwich will be transformed into a festive, pedestrian street fair with local businesses and organizations lining the street sides with tables and tents. Vendors and admission will be free for all

to participate thanks to generous support being sought from partners and sponsors.

“Please reach out to the Chamber if you are interested in getting involved. As the event takes shape, we encourage you to continue to support businesses and organizations that make the Greater Greenwich area a great place to live and work,” said Eustis.

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# Off-campus? All the better for Lacey.

As we are all well aware, life is on pause due to COVID-19. The winter high school sports season ended abruptly, leaving many championship games not played. The spring sports season never had the opportunity to begin. The same holds true for the New York High School Rodeo Association (NYHSRA) and its members, as they remain on pause. Salem-Washington Academy freshman, Lacey Winslow, and her equine teammate Gin are in limbo, as the rodeo season remains in question.

NYHSRA is a non-profit organization promoting youth in the sport of rodeo. Members earn points throughout the season by competing in NYHSRA sanctioned competitions. Just like school-sponsored sports, NYHSRA members must maintain a certain grade level, and there is a code of conduct to adhere to. There are scholarship opportunities too.

Last season, Lacey placed 5th in New York state in the all-around girls' division. This ranking is determined by averaging the number of points earned throughout the season from competing in three timed events: barrel racing, pole bending, and goat tying.

Lacey attributes some of her success in the rodeo arena to lessons learned in Mrs. Maxwell's animal science class. "Understanding the musculoskeletal system certainly helps in getting your horse to use its' body properly efficiently," stated Lacey. "I've also learned so much about how nutrition impacts performance," she added.

One of Lacey's many goals is to qualify in pole bending (she ranked 4th last last) at the national competition scheduled to be

held this summer in Nebraska. This means Lacey would need to finish in the top three in the state. However, with the start of this year's season in question, that goal might have to be put on hold. However, Lacey is keeping the optimistic mindset that competition will resume soon, and she continues schooling her horses while she schools from home.

In addition to her 11 year old Quarter Horse, Gin, Lacey has a 5 year old Quarter Horse named Hammer, who she is training. Just like people, horses learn at different levels and speeds. Just as teachers do, Lacey adjusts her teaching (or training) to help bring out the best from her two pupils. "What works well for one doesn't necessarily work for another. As a good teacher and teammate, it's my job to figure out what works best for them," said Lacey.

Lacey is a third-generation horse-woman, as her family own and operate Chipman Stables in Danby, VT. Lacey's grandmother, Billie Coburn, founded the business at age 12 by providing trail rides so those without horses could experience the joy of being with them. The business has vastly expanded, as riding lessons and boarding

are available. At the moment, the lesson program and trail rides are currently on pause, as only the essential workers are permitted on the premises. Lacey said she is grateful that during the temporary shutdown of boarding facilities she is able to work with her horses. "You'll never learn more patience nor get more honest feedback than time spent with horses," Lacey said.

Lacey and her older sister Lauren are also very active in the community. When they are not working with their horses or doing house chores, they can be found volunteering at the Salem Food Pantry. They regularly help on Saturday mornings with organizing and delivering food to community members, and recently helped with the milk distribution initiative.



Lacey Winslow and Gin

**'Just like people, horses learn at different levels and speeds.'**



Lauren and Lacey Winslow

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# Greenwich Council wrestles over park

**Darren Johnson**  
*Journal & Press*

The Greenwich Town Board met virtually on April 21, with the main topic of conversation being Riverside Park.

The park was purchased for \$149,500 by the town under the previous administration and, per conversations at the time, is to be overseen by Hudson Crossing Park's staff, who will be housed in one of the abandoned buildings on the 3.3-acre property. Hudson Crossing Park is on the Saratoga side of the Hudson River, Riverside Park is on the Washington County side at 5149 County Route 113. The bones of contention are the property had generated about \$1400 in local taxes (and now it's off the tax rolls) and the continued maintenance of the park will cost the town some money.

However, \$100,000 and \$95,000 grants have already been approved, so the town has some commitments to fulfill, including fixing and making habitable at least one of the buildings on the property and general upkeep. On April 21, the board voted 4-1 (Patrick Donahue dissenting) not to submit the town's portion of \$16,500 for a would-be \$65,000 grant, which would have been used for a master plan study. Ward felt that a master plan wasn't needed, as improvements to the park are easy to figure out.

The Zoning Board's Ralph Vecchio called into the meeting with concerns about the park: "There's no reliable source of funding for it other than the initial grant," he said.

As for existing grant monies, he said that his board went down to the property and took a look. The grant is for decks and walkways, "but it's premature to spend that money," he said.

Town Supervisor Don Ward noted a safety rail is needed along the river's edge, as the drop is rather steep, and he mentioned other possible uses: group events, a dog park or bocce/horseshoe pits, for example. He noted that volunteers have spent countless hours to improve the park. "There's an opportunity there, but nothing definitive," Ward said. "I have not signed the agreement yet with Hudson Crossing."

Ward added, "We can do multiple things with the building," which formerly was



used for classrooms for the long defunct Schuyler Prep, but he said a barn on the property may need to be razed. "There are too many unanswered questions." Overall, though, Ward seemed committed to the park in his comments. Ward said that the property could not be easily sold because of deeds and restrictions tied to the original 2017 sale. "We're stuck with it and have to make the best of it."

## **'We're stuck with it and have to make the best of it.'**

Other board members were even less enthusiastic, but, because this was an online meeting, it was hard to determine exactly who was speaking. Here are some quotes:

"This is going to be a stone around our neck for a long time. It doesn't make sense for the town to have this particular property."

"The initial plan had great goals with the Hudson Crossing group, but it's not fair to the taxpayers to fund the park."

### **Also mentioned at the meeting:**

- Because of a recent influx of Amish residents into rustic North Greenwich, the

town has installed several buggy-crossing signs in the region. As well, via Facebook, the town issued guidelines for motorists dealing with buggies on the road.

- Timely: Sandy McReynold's Historian Report mentioned how the 1957 Asian Flu closed down Greenwich schools for a week.

- Of course, COVID-19 and its impact on the town were talked about. At the county level, the loss in sales tax and other revenue may total \$600,000 to \$1.2M. In Greenwich, the town may lose \$35,000. "It's going to be a tough budget next year," Ward said. "We're going to have to take a very close look at discretionary spending."

- Lucas Irwin was added to the Zoning Board.

- The Tour of the Battenkill bike race will now be Sept. 12. It had been scheduled for May 9.

- Youth Summer Programs are still taking applications, and a lifeguard class is still planned. Get an application on the town's web site. Application fees are not expected up front, should the programs end up being cancelled. "It would be good for our kids if we could have the Summer Program," Ward said. "It would be good for us, too."

- Greenwich town seniors have been appreciative of local officials reaching out to them, Ward said. The seniors were given a

**continued on page 9**

# Driving across the USA (part I)

**Liv Thygesen**  
*Journal & Press*

The windows were fully open as the wind whipped through in my burgundy 1998 Ford Escort. The heat of the asphalt created watery mirrors that covered the roadway left to right. On either side of the car, the horizon extended until the curvature of the earth took over and the hazy sand disappeared. Not a hill or mountain in sight. Tumble weeds sat hundreds of yards from the road as if they were counting the cars that passed them. Never had I seen such straight flat highways. The endless expanse of the desert was mesmerizing. The freedom of the desert highway was liberating.

At 80 MPH the tires vibrated as I raced down Interstate 10 in the hot Texas desert. Soon 80 turned into 90 and 90 into 100. Other than the vibration of the wheels under me, I could not feel how fast the car was travelling. The only company I had was an AM/FM radio and a tape deck. Attached to the stereo was an adapter that converted my non-skip resistant CD player into a radio signal that

would then play through the car. Anytime a car passed me, the radio signal would fade out and the music would fade out into fuzz. As exciting as it is to drive across the country at nineteen, with no cell phone, and a patchy radio, the drive was long and arduous.

Interstate 10 is the one of the highways that Eisenhower built to connect our country. It extends beyond the entire length of Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and into California. With only a Rand McNally book of maps which I purchased at Kmart at 17, I headed out on my trek across the United States. I was on my way from Pensacola, Florida, to Lemoore, California, my next duty station. To prepare for this journey, each leg of the trip was highlighted in yellow with the scheduled stops, and alternate routes, should there be a construction detour. The duration of the trip was to last no longer than five days, as one day had been allotted for a trip to the Grand Canyon. Each leg was meticulously planned. No GPS. No cell phone. No extra cash.

Just a book of maps and Eisenhower's road signs.

Day two of the quest found me in the aforementioned desert, somewhere between San Antonio and El Paso, just outside of Sonora, Texas. It was a bright sunny hot day. Heat like this will overload your air conditioner as you barrel down the highway. Therefore, it cannot be used. The heat was intense in the car, even with the windows down and the dry air blowing across the seats.

At two o'clock, about ten miles east of Sonora, a rest area appeared on the horizon. While

### 'Note to self: Don't leave the parking lot.'

pulling in, the steering wheel felt tight and resisted my efforts to pull to the curb in front of the restrooms. "I must be tired; I can't even turn the wheel." I thought as I yanked the e-brake into position. My back and legs peeled from the seat like a band aid as I climbed out of the car. Reaching both arms into the sky, I stepped onto the sidewalk and headed to the rest area building. I was alone at the rest stop. Not a car in sight. The only visible sign of human life was the "beware of rattle snakes" signs with images of a dog on a leash getting bitten by a rattle snake. The signs littered the curb and brush on the outskirts of the parking lot. "Jesus." I whispered. "Note to self, don't leave the parking lot." I stretched as I walked into the building, looking around at the desert land-

scape. Need to make it to the other side of El Paso today in order to stay on track. I repeated to myself. That's about fourteen hours of driving today. Quick stop here and I am still on schedule.

After finishing up my business and a brief walk around the visitor's center, I headed back to my car. There was something hanging from under the hood on the passenger side of the car. "What on earth is that?" I popped the hood and walked around the car, looking underneath, under the hood and all around. A belt had slipped off and was hanging loosely on the ground. Well, how do I fix that all the way out here? The car still started, but the wheels would not turn and putting it in gear was difficult. As I stood there wondering, a voice came up behind me;

"Are you all right miss? Do you need any help?" I whipped around to see the rest area attendant staring at me. Where did he come from? There was no one here!

"Miss, there is a town about ten miles back, I can bring you there. We have several auto parts stores." I can take you to town and help you fix your car." Oh my goodness! HE did this. He sabotaged my car so he can kill me and bury me in the desert!

*To be continued...*

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



## Senior event postponed

The Olde Saratoga Seniors will not be meeting in May due to the COVID-19 epidemic. The group is looking to the possibility of a get together picnic in July or August, depending on what the situation in the state is. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pat Temple at 518-338-2329 or e-mail Patty61349@yahoo.com.

## Memorial service change

The memorial service for Helen Robinson originally scheduled for May 3rd at 2:00 p.m. at the United Church of Greenwich has been postponed indefinitely due to the coronavirus.



# Riverside Park and buggies (cont.)

“pink sheet” of numbers to call to help them during this time.

- During the public portion of this online meeting, Lorraine Ballard of The Battenkill Conservancy mentioned that two trees that had been cut down in front of Advance Auto have not been properly replaced. Ward said he’d send a representative from Code Enforcement to the store to talk to the manager.

- Also, during the public portion, Lily Green from Greenwich inquired about what seemed like an abandoned property that includes railroad tracks near Riverside Park in Clarks Mills/Thomson, but Ward said it was still owned by Georgia Pacific. It’s

for sale, he said, but not listed.

- The annual dog census this year is cancelled due to COVID-19. Each year, usually, the town tries to find unlicensed dogs by going door to door. This year, rogue pooches get a reprieve, but town residents should still register their dogs with the town. Contact the town clerk at 518-692-7611 ext. 100.



New signs and a buggy parked near Tractor Supply. -dj

## Cronin picks Sage College

Greenwich Central’s cross country and track and field standout, Emma Cronin, will attend Russell Sage College.

Cronin ranks No. 4 in the senior class, with a 96.84 average and is Secretary of the National Honor Society and Vice President of her class. It has been a long running career for Emma, who began running varsity indoor and outdoor track and field as a seventh-grader and cross country in the eighth.

Reflecting on her athletic career, Emma focuses on her personal experiences. “I’ve learned what it means to be a true friend and how special it feels to have friends who support you no matter what. I had the chance to develop relationships that I won’t forget and I really enjoyed it. I loved all of the girls that I ran with throughout high school and they are my best friends. I really enjoyed team sleepovers and dinners. I also had a lot of fun going to meets like Rhode Island, in cross country, because it felt like a bonding experience and we always had a fun time.”

Emma’s running accomplishments are especially impressive. She was a member

of three state championship teams in cross country and her top individual state meet finish was 10th. Among favorite memories, Emma recalls her first State Championship: “I was in 8th grade. I was little and didn’t really understand what was going on leading up to the state meet. It was very special to hear that we had won. This was my first big moment of running and I felt very lucky to be a part of such a close, hardworking team.” Emma also relishes the memory of her 10th grade outdoor track and field state meet. “Our goal was to get the school record in the 4x800M relay and we achieved that. It was very cool to run against great runners and I was proud to be a part of my team.” Emma went on to also become part of the indoor track and field school record 4x800M relay team.

Emma’s contribution in a wide range of events helped GCS win multiple league, sectional and state titles. She has run 18:24 at the Spa Park cross country course and has posted track and field times of 10:44 in the 3000M; 5:09 in the 1500M; 3:14 in the 1000M; 7:47 in the 2000M steeplechase; and a 2:21 leg of the 4x800M



relay.

Although Emma drew attention from NCAA Division I colleges and universities, she decided upon Russell Sage, because it was the best fit for her. “Russell Sage has the Occupational Therapy major I want and I really like the school.” She has also earned an academic scholarship and is a candidate for other awards.

## Getting to know the Asa Fitch House

**Jim Nolan**  
*Journal & Press*

The Asa Fitch House, located at 4183 State Route 29 in Salem, was built in 1787. The house was built for Colonel Adam Martin and his son, Walter Martin, who came to the region from Stockbridge, Massachusetts, after the Revolution.

The home was modeled after those common in New England at the time. It has a steeped, hipped slate-covered roof, five-bay facade and symmetrical interior layout and other features often seen in late Georgian architecture.

The Fitch family arrived from Vermont in the early 1780s. Asa Fitch Sr. served as a Sergeant in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. After his service, he studied medicine and became a practicing physician in Salem.

In 1795, Asa Fitch Sr. acquired the northern portion of the house from his brother-in-law, Walter Martin. Fitch Sr. paid \$7500 for his half of the house plus 140 acres and half of the grist and saw mills. Since this portion of the house lacked a kitchen, the construction of a small wing in which a kitchen and medical office is located was soon completed.

Additional construction on the house occurred in the late 1790s and early 1800s. A second floor ballroom was constructed to add amenities when the house was serving as a tavern.

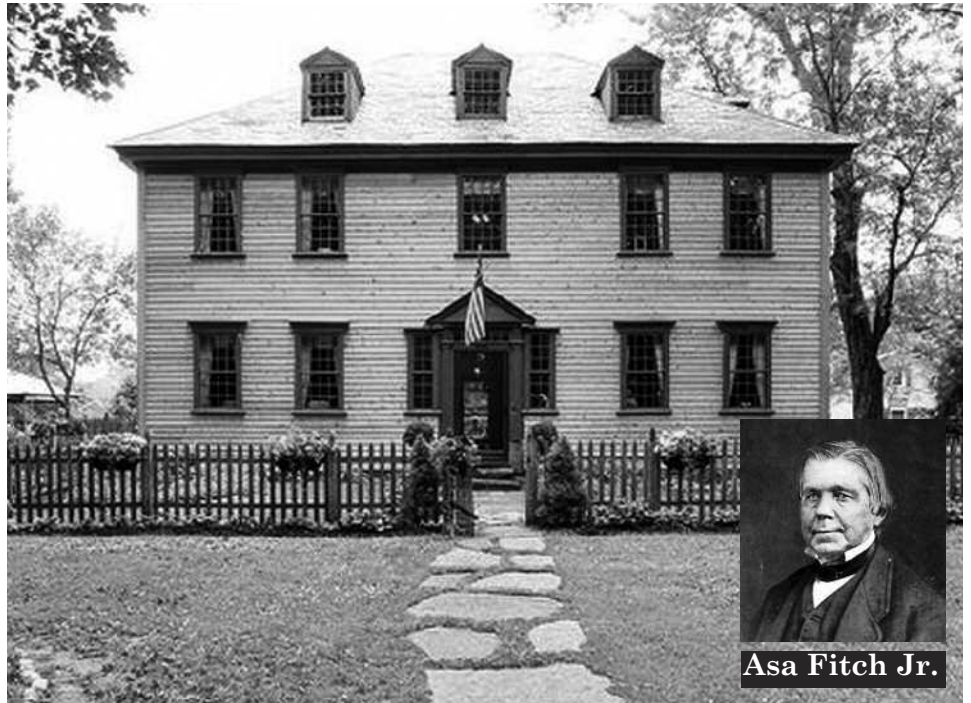
Asa Fitch Sr. served as Salem Justice of the Peace, (1799-1810), president of the Washington County Medical Society (1806-11) and county judge in 1810. In 1811,

he was elected as a Federalist to the Twelfth Congress, serving until 1813. Declining to be a candidate for re-nomination, he resumed his positions as county judge (1814-21) and president of the Washington County Medical Society (1814-26).

Beginning in the 1840s and continuing until his death in 1878, Asa Fitch Sr. interviewed elderly neighbors, questioning them about the time of the first European settlement in the area, the Revolutionary War, and the first decades of the 19th century. He produced a transcript entitled "Notes for a History of Washington County, NY."

Asa Fitch Jr., born in 1809, studied medicine at Rutgers Medical College, Vermont Academy of Medicine and The Rensselaer School (now Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) before returning to Washington County to start a medical practice.

Asa Fitch Jr. was also a farmer and ultimately became president of the Washington County Agricultural Society. In 1848, he began work on a 300-page historical, topographical and agricultural survey of Wash-



Asa Fitch Jr.



ington County on behalf of the New York State Agricultural Society, a project that took nearly three years.

In 1854, Asa Fitch Jr. was named the state's official entomologist. His research culminated in his "Report on the Noxious, Beneficial and Other

Washington County in large numbers before the decline of regional wheat farming after 1830 and a milk house (c. 1900). Asa Fitch Jr. died in 1879 and is buried in the Fitch family plot in Evergeen Cemetery, Salem.

The part of Salem where the house is located, adjacent to the confluence of the Black Creek with the Battenkill, has long been known as Fitch's Point, and it was there that Washington County's first grist mill was established.

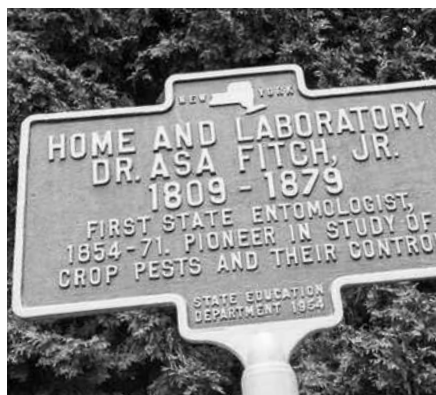
The Asa Fitch House and the "Bug" House have been listed in the National Register of Historical Places since 2014. The house continues to be a private residence.

### 'The patriarch served in the Continental Army.'

Insects of the State of New York." Fourteen editions of the work were published and Fitch gained worldwide praise for his work.

The Asa Fitch, Jr. Laboratory, or "Bug House," was built about 1825 and enlarged about 1860. It is a small two-story, gable roofed frame rectangular building with a lean-to addition. Fitch Jr. kept his bug collection there. Also on the property are a ca. 1825 swing-beam barn, a type built in

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



# All your photos will have that ‘pandemic look’

The ongoing stay-at-home order has forced most of us to seek amusement by posting photos of ourselves from bygone eras to our social media accounts.

“Share your high school senior picture” was trending last week; a challenge I was about to undertake until I read how doing so could invite hackers to glean more information about me, such as where I attended school, where I currently lived and who did such a horrible job cutting my hair in 1980.

Security experts also warned that more information could be easily obtained once this information was known, as many people choose to use their high school as a security answer or worse, their password. Those of you who attended Catholic schools need not worry; even the most skilled hacker is probably going to give up before guessing, “AcademyOfOurLadyOfGood-Counsel1994.”

Despite not participating, I enjoyed seeing these throwback photos, from graduation and other events, posted by friends. Did everybody in the 1970s wear thick, black horn-rimmed glasses and look like they worked for the Apollo space program?

Ladies, if you attended college in the early 1980s, did the law require you to part your hair down the middle and then feather it back with enough aerosol to start a salon?

And guys, did you not realize that only David Coverdale, from Whitesnake, and Jon Bon Jovi could pull off the big hair, pompadour look? The rest of you had that “just exited a wind tunnel” look.

Tom, my long-time comedian friend in New York, often reminds me why he has never jumped on the fashion bandwagon. “The hipper your clothes are today, the more ridiculous photos of you are going to look in 20 years,” he says on stage.

I won’t argue.

When scientists find a vaccine for COVID-19, the “all clear” signal is given, and life returns to whatever is subsequently defined as “normal,” we will all be left with

treasure troves of photos taken during the pandemic. And in future decades, when those photos find their way into school history books (assuming schools and books still exist) or onto social media sites, viewers won’t need to look at a hairstyle, a car in the background or an item of clothing to determine the photo was indeed shot in 2020.

For starters, the viewer only has to see the photo’s dimensions. It will most likely be shot vertically, with a 9-by-16 aspect ratio. The photo will contain only one subject. Correction, one HUMAN subject. Animals may be included, but more people? Absolutely not, for they will all be standing at least 6 feet away and, therefore, out of frame.

The subject will be wearing sweatpants and a faded T-shirt containing some sem-

## ‘Photos of celebratory occasions will feature one participant.’

blance of the slogan, “We’re All in this Together.” He or she will be shoeless. Men will have facial stubble; sadly, so will some women. Hairstyles won’t have complimentary names like “The Rachel,” “Charlie’s Angels” or “The David Hasselhoff.” Instead, all hair will fall into the “Dang, That Should Have Been Cut Weeks Ago” category.

Photos of celebratory occasions will feature one participant, perfectly centered, wearing a “Happy Birthday” or “Congratulations” party hat, while grainy, square images of others hover overhead. The word “Zoom” will appear somewhere.



The “guess where this photo was taken” game will be boring once everybody realizes the answer is always the same: “Uh, your house?” Kids who play sports won’t appear in photos wearing brightly colored uniforms while baseball diamonds and soccer fields glisten behind them. Instead, the background will be a basement wall or a garage door. Youth basketball players, take heart: At least the vertical photos will make you look taller than you are.

Since the stay-at-home order began in mid-March, I have neglected to take many photos, so anxious am I to erase this moment from my life, rather than record it for future viewing. I did break down last weekend and post a selfie, snapped while my wife cut my hair. The pandemic, I realized, would not date it.

Trust me, even without a global health crisis, that image is horrifying and depressing.

*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](http://www.gregschwem.com).*



# Get a garden plot on Courthouse grounds

The Historic Salem Community Courthouse Center invites community members and area residents to register for individual garden plots available on the Courthouse grounds located on East Broadway in Salem. This is a great opportunity to garden with all of the perks supplied by the Courthouse! It will provide approximately 20'x4' plots that will be rototilled at

the beginning of the growing season, fertilized with organic fertilizer and fenced around the perimeter. There will be walkways between plots, community gardening tools, water, and a composting area on site. Advice and consultation are available, and each plot will be designated by individual markers. The first plot is \$20 with any additional plots gardened by the same in-

dividual or family at only \$10.

The gardening season will run from May 20 to October 20, 2020. Gardeners will gather from 9-noon on Saturday, May 16th to prep for the gardening season. All plots are assigned on a first-come first-served basis and there are limited numbers. Please contact Garden Committee Chair Christine Michael at [cnevadam@gmail.com](mailto:cnevadam@gmail.com) or text

her at 518-461-0935 if you wish to find out if there are still available plots; she can provide you with an application and gardener guidelines. You can then mail the application and a check to the HSCPA with the memo line reading Community Garden. Checks can be mailed to HSCPA, P.O. Box 140, Salem, New York, 12865.

## Two local students earn WICC grants

The Greenwich-based organization WICC, or the Water Insecurity Correction Coalition, on April 28 announced the six winners of the Mari Copeny Award and Scholarship.

Mari Copeny, a 12-year-old activist from Michigan, is popularly known as "Little Miss Flint" for her community leadership and fight for clean water for her fellow Flint, Michigan residents, who have been in the midst of a lead water crisis for six years now. The award put out by WICC for graduating high school seniors is meant to honor Mari's legacy as a dedicated social justice warrior and encourage community involvement and leadership in young adults.

The Greenwich Region's winners were Quinn Collins and Emma Cronin, both Class of 2020's from Greenwich High School. From Flint, the winners were Taina Cox and Katia Moore, both soon-graduates from Hamady High School. And from Newark, the winners were Gabriela Martinez from Science Park High School and Amanda Da Silva from Technology High School.

Applicants were asked to show how they were involved in their own communities, how they were a leader, and how they fought for social justice. The award went to two seniors from the three regions the award is offered, including Greenwich New York, the home-base of WICC and the hometown of WICC's founder Annabel Gregg, Flint Michigan, and Newark New Jersey, where a similar lead water crisis has been ongoing for almost as long as Flint. Each award winner also receives a \$100 cash scholarship.

Collins has always had a dedication to service, which led to her decision to attend the United States Military Academy. Aside from being an honor student, Quinn was selected to be a Norman Borlog scholar in 2019, where she got "to attend

the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute, where [she] was given the opportunity to meet with peer leaders from around the globe and world-renowned hunger fighters that have dedicated their lives to working to end food insecurity." As her school's National Honors Society President, she has

encouraged her fellow seniors to excel in their academics and in their community through volunteerism and stewardship. She has also volunteered at the Special Olympics Young Athletes Program with the other Greenwich winner, Cronin.

A profile of Cronin appears on Page 9.



Quinn Collins



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# Salem students help first responders

Challenge ignites creativity and innovation. Adversity ignites kindness and caring. Across the country and locally, we are seeing businesses changing their product line in order to produce items greatly needed during this time. Although these various businesses represent a wide spectrum of products, the one thing they all have in common is people – people utilizing their creative and innovative minds to seek solutions in a time of crisis.

Mr. Todd DeSoto, a technology teacher at Salem Washington Academy, and his students are no exception. Actually, they are exceptional. Although the school's doors are currently closed as students continue to learn off campus, Mr. DeSoto and his students have been producing face shields with items readily available: transparency film, three-hole punch, scissors, and a 3-D printer. His students have evolved into a virtual research and development department, as they provide suggestions for improvement while they learn off-campus via video chats.

The project began by using the guidelines from a blueprint Mr. DeSoto found on thin-

giveuse.com and shared with his students. The headband is created by the

3-D printer, and each headband takes about 3.5 hours to print. One of the first shields Mr. DeSoto initially made used plastic sheet protectors for the shield. However, it was quickly discovered that the visibility wasn't very clear, which could lead to safety hazards. Along with the nearly extinct overhead projector, remains an abundant supply of overhead transparencies, which provides the solution for clearer and stronger shields.

Members of the Salem Volunteer Fire Department and Salem Rescue Squad have been given the masks to try out in seeking their feedback. The general consensus has been that they are quite comfortable.

Since the time this project began, another challenge in regard to personal protective equipment (PPE) emerged, as the skin behind their ears of essential employees having to wear masks began to break down. This damage to the skin is caused by the heat and friction created in wearing a mask for a long period of time. Besides being uncomfortable, this condition can



Mr. DeSoto

also lead to infection.

Being solution seekers, the students came up with a custom design using the computer program Sketch to create a file to print ear savers. What's an ear saver? It's a plastic band that takes the pressure off the backs of ears while wearing a face mask for hours. The students even further customized their product by having "Salem Hero" printed within the band.

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## Prohibition and the Supreme Court

**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](http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org).*

*Here are some snippets from past editions from early Mays many decades ago:*

### 100 Years Ago

**May 05, 1920**

School teachers are keenly interested in the provisions of the Lockwood Donahue bill recently passed by the legislature, and which is expected to become a law very soon with the signature of Governor Smith. By the provisions this bill the salaries of many of the teachers in the state will be materially increased. Teachers in the rural schools, especially, will profit by the new bill, as the minimum salary in even the smallest schools will not be below twenty dollars a week.

### 90 Years Ago

**May 07, 1930**

The prohibition question is going to be brought up as an issue in the Republican primaries next fall unless Theodore A. Knapp, Saratoga Springs attorney, changes his mind. Mr. Knapp is out with a statement that he intends to oppose James

S. Parker of Salem in his candidacy for re-nomination for member of congress from the twenty ninth district. Mr. Parker, who has represented this district in the House of Representatives for many years, is on the record on dry side of many votes in the house.

### 80 Years Ago

**May 15, 1940**

Construction of an athletic field and recreational center at the Argyle central school has been approved by Lester W. Herzog, state administrator of The Works Progress administration. The work will include grading, construction of a driveway and paths, and instillation of recreational facilities.

### 70 Years Ago

**May 03, 1950**

The Black and White Minstrels of 1950, which will be presented by Liberty Post and the auxiliary, American Legion, will be staged at the Greenwich Central School Auditorium Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 16, 17, and 18.

### 60 Years Ago

**May 04, 1960**

Twenty-six women attended the rural-urban luncheon sponsored by the Washington County Farm Bureau women's committee at Wallie's restaurant last Wednesday, and to which representatives of various organizations were invited

Mrs. Charles Clark of White Creek explained the Farm Bureau's objectives and each of the women from the visiting organi-

zations spoke of their aims and projects.

### 40 Years Ago

**May 08, 1980**

On Saturday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. dealers and customers will gather for the Early Summer Flea Market sponsored by the Washington County Junior Fair, Inc, at the fairgrounds on route 29 between Schuylerville and Greenwich.

Proceeds from the event will be used to help construct an additional building to house commercial displays at the fair in August.

Dealers will be offering a variety of antiques and collectibles ranging from furniture to jewelry, leather craft, china, tools and Depression glass.

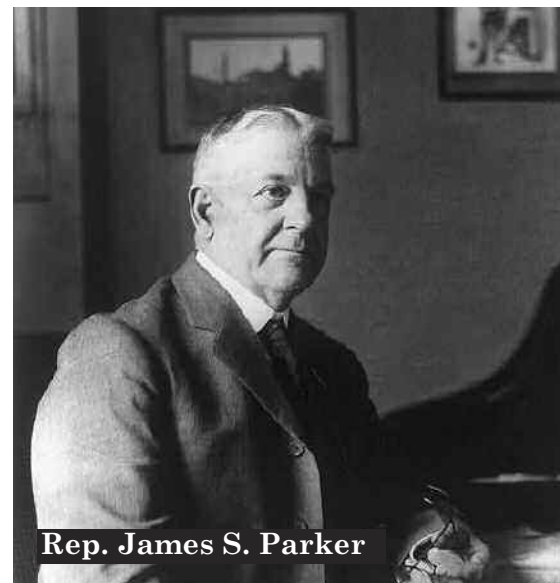
### 30 Years Ago

**May 03, 1990**

No decision was made Monday on a court case involving a mural in the Schuylerville Central School auditorium. Robert and Susan Joki had complained to the New York Civil Liberties Union that the painting violates the separation of church and state.

Attorneys representing the school and the Jokis were in Albany Monday to present their arguments. U.S. District Judge Howard Munson listened but delayed making a judgment for at least a month.

School officials have contended that the mural, painted by Craig Martin in 1965, is a



**Rep. James S. Parker**

student artwork and does not violate the First Amendment. They argued that the work represents man's inhumanity to man and does not endorse any particular religion.

The Jokis, who are district parents of two very young children, said the painting favors Christianity.

**(Editor's Note: The case did make it to the US Supreme Court and the painting was ordered removed.)**

### 20 Years Ago

**May 11, 2000**

The Junior Class at Greenwich Central School will hold their prom tomorrow evening.

Those attending will arrive at the high school in the late afternoon dressed in their gowns and tuxedos.

Coronation will take place on the school grounds starting at 5 p.m.

Traveling by limousine and private automobiles, the young people will proceed to the Queensberry Hotel for dinner and an evening of dancing.

# Bleak predictions keep on coming

**Jill Schlesinger**  
*Special to Journal & Press*

“Apocalyptic,” “unprecedented shocks,” “a generation-defining moment” are just some of the terms that describe the economy and the labor market right now. Sadly, the news could get worse in the coming months.

The Labor Department’s March employment report showed that 701,000 jobs vanished, pushing up the number of unemployed people by 1.4 million to 7.1 million. The unemployment rate jumped from a 50-year low of 3.5% to 4.4%, the largest month-over-month increase since January 1975, and the broader rate, which includes part-timers and those who are marginally attached, increased to 8.7%.

The March report, which snapped a record 113-month stretch of job creation, was far worse than expected, because most economists and analysts had believed that because the Labor Department accumulates data early in the month (March 8-

14), the numbers would not yet demonstrate the gravity of the situation. They were wrong.

Here are some of the updates from the economists I follow and talk to regularly:

—The U.S. economy is likely to “lose more than twice as many jobs as we lost during the Great Recession during the first two months of this crisis alone. Unemployment will soar into the double digits. ...There is no scale to measure the misery associated with COVID-19 on all fronts,” said Diane Swonk, chief economist of Grant Thornton.

—“We are just seeing the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the collapse of the labor market,” said Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors.

—“This is more like 1929 and the 1930s, which hit the whole world,” said Kenneth Rogoff, professor of economics at Harvard.

—“Never in the history of the IMF have we witnessed the world economy come to a standstill,” said Kristalina Georgieva, man-

aging director of the International Monetary Fund.

Researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis outlined the dire situation, when they noted that of the nearly 165 million people in the civilian labor force, about 40% work in jobs “that are at high risk of layoff.” Under a worst case scenario, that would result in 47 million unemployed and a staggering 32.1% unemployment rate.

While those numbers may be too high, plenty of other economists have predicted that the rate could spike to 15 to 20% due to the pandemic-induced recession, with estimates of job losses leaping into the tens of millions, as restaurants, bars, transportation, leisure and hospitality and, most recently, retail, take extreme measures to survive.

All these pressures lead economists to predict a historically bad period for the U.S. economy. Unfortunately, the key to mitigating the economic damage is to control the virus, which requires all of us

to stay home. A working paper that studied the 1918 flu pandemic, finds that tougher measures to curb the spread could help the economy over the long term.

“Somewhat surprisingly perhaps, we find that areas that acted early and aggressively with non-pharmaceutical interventions do not perform worse economically, at least in the medium term - if anything, they actually come out of the pandemic stronger,” said Emil Verner, an MIT Sloan assistant professor and co-author of the paper, with Sergio Correia, an economist at the Federal Reserve, and Stephan Luck, an economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

*Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. She welcomes comments at [askjill@jillmoney.com](mailto:askjill@jillmoney.com).*



## Managing the unmanageable

**Daneen Skube**  
*Special to Journal & Press*

**Q:** *Every day I wake up flooded by new problems I've never had before. How can one find peace in the middle of this situation?*

**A:** You can find peace in two ways: 1) Make the journey to the center of yourself that you may have been too distracted to do before 2) Find a spiritual source that works to be your refuge.

If you focus only on the intense storm going on in the world, there will be no peace for you. If you can turn your vision inward, there is refuge in the center of yourself that is an eye of any hurricane.

Many of our lives do feel unmanageable right now. The natu-

ral world is certainly making it clear that she and not we has always been in control. We cannot now believe that nature is subordinate to our will or that our personal ego is adequate to run our lives. A connection with our soul, as we understand it, may be essential to finding sanity.

During a meditation at the end of 2019, I had an image of standing in a beautiful snowy forest facing a cozy home softly lit at twilight. In the image the snow began lightly falling on my shoulders. The words, “If you can see the world through the eyes of the soul, then the peace of the soul will fall upon you like new falling snow, and if you see the world through the eyes of the ego then

you will suffer” came to me.

I cannot prove to any reader that there is a benevolent intelligence looking out for you. What I do know is experimenting with the theory that there is a refuge within yourself in the form of a connection to a higher intelligence is comforting and may surprise you. Our humility and kindness right now with ourselves, each other and a willingness to look inside to discover a spiritual refuge could help. I profoundly believe we will eventually come out of this better than we went into it. I think we will discover better ways of working, clarity about what matters, better work/life balance and more self-sufficiency (cooking anyone?).

Look at global events through the eyes of the soul. What perceptions might you experience with this perspective and what peace may be available? If your life has become unmanageable, seek the refuge of those you love and the possibility there is something larger than you in charge.

In the middle of this storm, we may discover the divine within ourselves. As we walk together through this storm, I intend my column to be part of your refuge.

*Daneen Skube, Ph.D., executive coach, trainer, therapist and speaker, also appears as the FOX Channel’s “Workplace Guru” each Monday.*



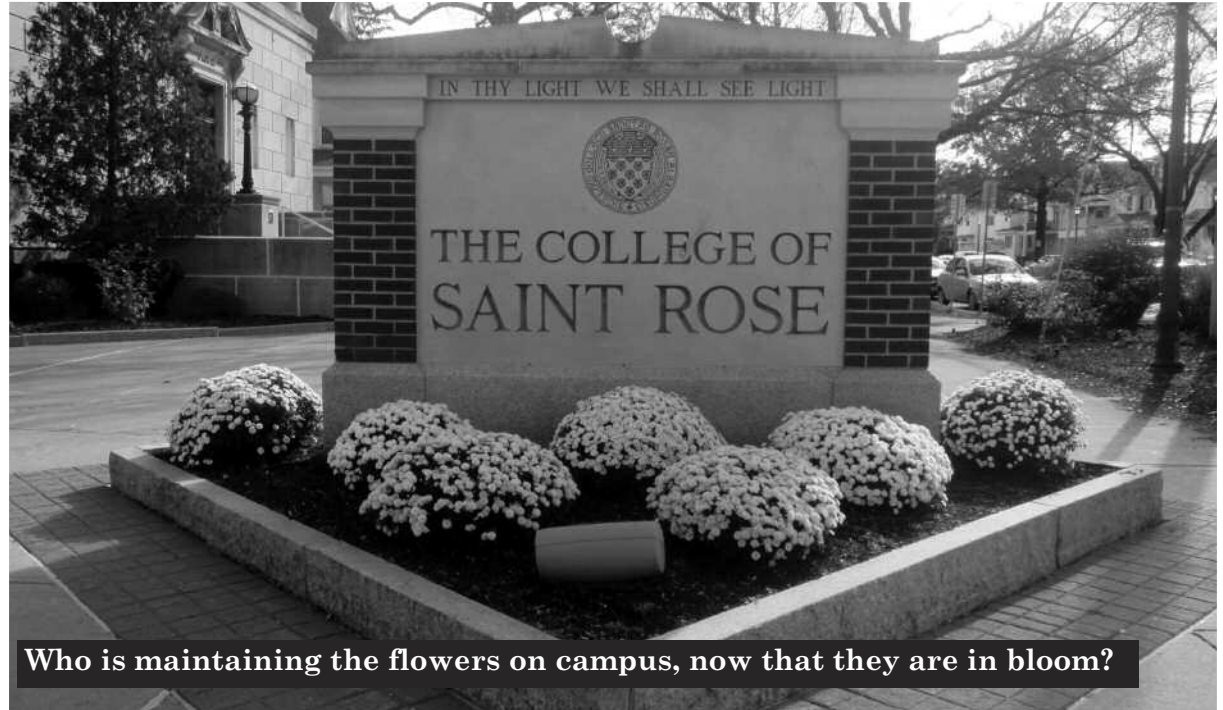
# Losing my final senior semester

**Kaylee Johnson**  
*Journal & Press*

Recently, my college, The College of Saint Rose, announced the campus will not reopen for the rest of the semester. It's a small college in the middle of Albany. The Capitol is within walking distance and there are hipster coffee shops on every corner where eccentrics congregate, play their guitars, write prose and talk about Noam Chomsky. I will not return to the campus for classes again. This is my last semester of college and I feel robbed of the sentiments and nostalgia that seniors should be indulging in during those final months, together.

I won't rehearse for improv comedy shows in the basement of a dingy dorm building where freshmen draw sexually explicit doodles on the whiteboard or walk around the city carrying one high heel in each hand, counting cars and broken streetlights. I won't sit on the campus green cross-legged reading newspapers, listening to Joni Mitchell music. I won't take wild midnight walks down Madison Avenue with my beatnik friends, avoiding the cracks on the sidewalks like small children, inhaling the night and sad smoke in the air.

In college I have met sadists who only communicate through satire and poetry; people who do their hair and makeup like debutantes but are afraid to leave the divinity of their dorm rooms; people who drink and cry about the state of our oceans; a professor who believed in witchcraft and told me I was tempting fate and would face doom sooner or later; another professor who stuffed student mouths with dry overwrought literature like "The Yellow Wallpaper" and I told him in front of the entire class that he was a hack and needed to find some zest; an acting coach who thought me to be problem as I performed off-the-wall avant-garde scenes with an agreeably wild actor; a man who wore his varsity football jacket and drove me around in his stick shift car, always talking about the world and how it's the subtleties that give people away; musicians hiding behind Versace glasses and three too many drinks at the taproom they were playing at; how the Uber drivers cringe and reflect. These people are all psychedelic shapes in my mental kaleidoscope.



**Who is maintaining the flowers on campus, now that they are in bloom?**

I was student teaching in my fifth grade classroom at a small Upstate elementary school when I found out about the shut down. Shortly after, the superintendent announced that our school would close for five weeks. So over the course of two days, we as local teachers hustled to put together clumsy, quite disorganized packets that would serve as some sort of educational nutrition during this disorienting time. My students did not get to say goodbye to me and there is no way for me to track how they are faring this rocky transition.

**‘Find tranquility and make peace with what you can’t control.’**

Normally at this time, college seniors would be ordering caps and gowns, attending events and sporting events on campus, spending time with friends and savoring their final moments of youth. These circumstances are bewildering and melancholy. Nobody received the closure they desired. Walk through any campus right now and feel the apocalyptic eeriness. But this can still be a time to reflect on the past four years and acknowledge the nouns (people, places and things) that have made one's experience worthwhile and pay hom-

age to them.

If you are in a similar situation – a senior at a four-year college or a sophomore at a two-year college – take time to reach out to the people you care about, as not everybody can mentally handle a life that lacks structure. Online classes have been a curveball thrown at students who struggle with organization and attention and older professors who are may not be as fluent with technology.

In your final semester at your current school during this low budget filming of our nationwide science fiction film, be still. Don't worry about commencement or meeting credit requirements. Allow this next month to be a time of self-love and rediscovery. Delve into the less popular works of your favorite author, call an old friend or start a journal and write about your favorite college moments. Closure is not linear, and in this circumstance it will be untraditional and different for all seniors. While you are searching for a unique way to cap off the past two or four years, remember that none of this has to be done alone. Social distancing does not equate to complete isolation (just remember to use hand sanitizer and proper hand washing techniques if you venture out, and stick to being six feet away from others). Find tranquility amid the confusion, and make peace with what you can't control.



# Remember when: Another plague

Lance Allen Wang  
*Journal & Press*

I've never been a champion of "presentism." We are often quick to use words like "unprecedented," "biggest ever," "never seen before," and so on and so forth, yet situations that are once in a generation are exactly that. They've come before and will come again. Previous generations dealt with them, and if they were unable to, they suffered the effects regardless. So as I write this in the time of our current plague, COVID-19, I think back to what my parents, and by now many of your grandparents, dealt with when they were growing up.

Summers were not always a time of care-free happiness for kids in America. I wrote several weeks ago about the atomic panic that engulfed our country at times during the Cold War. But another nightmare which scared parents was that of polio. Polio was not a genetic disease, rather it spread through bodily fluids – coughing, sneezing, or spitting. But its effects could be crippling – full recovery was possible, but in some cases it could result in paralysis (such as suffered by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt as an adult). One in 1,000 childhood victims would suffer paralysis, but for adults the odds were far worse – one in 75. Paralysis often included the muscles required to breathe, and a device called the "iron lung" was part of mid-20th century culture. Looking like a large oil tank with a hole for the head to stick out, the iron lung would increase and decrease air pressure within through the efforts of a loud, large motor, essentially expanding and contracting the victim's lungs. In a best case scenario, a victim



would begin breathing on their own in a few weeks as muscles regained some function. In a worst case scenario, the victim would live out their life in an iron lung.

So how did America cope? Well, late summer was sometimes known as "polio season," and public swimming pools shut down as movie theaters urged patrons not to sit too close together. Before Jonas Salk created his vaccine in 1955, word of a case of polio in the neighborhood was enough to send a chill up the spine of parents. Those who were exposed were quarantined for two weeks. 1952 was the worst year of all. In 1952 alone, nearly 60,000 children were infected with polio. Thousands were paralyzed and more than 3,000 died. The March of Dimes became a significant charity to help those stricken by polio and also to help find a cure. By 1955, vaccines by Dr. Jonas Salk and Dr. Albert Sabin were well on their way to eradicating polio in the Western world, leaving it in isolated pockets of the third world where efforts continue to eradicate it. Dr. Salk, when asked by legendary newsman Edward R. Murrow who owned the patent for his vaccine, responded beautifully: "There is no patent! Could you patent the sun?"

A contemporary Rotarian in England, Roger Frank, built a mechanical iron lung to teach people about the bad old days of polio. He wrote, "For many polio patients, the apparatus was crucial for surviving the disease's early stages, when their muscles were too weak, or paralyzed, for independent breathing. The lifesaving mechanical respirators were a common sight, lined up

in rows at hospitals. The stricken, mostly young children, were confined in the chambers, normally for at least two or three weeks, exposed only from the neck up, with mirrors above their heads providing their only glimpse into the world around them amid the machines' cacophony." He says when most people see his presentation, especially young ones, they stand motionless for quite a few seconds in the end, imagining how somebody could spend nearly their whole life in the machine.

Why muse on an epidemic that tormented the world in the early-mid 20th Century? To bring home three points – first of all, we will get through this by exercising common sense and being prudent and thoughtful in our behavior. Second of all, science will find an answer to COVID-19 given resources and emphasis. And lastly, while sequestered away in our own homes, we should be grateful to our Creator that we and those we love have the ability to continue with our lives operating within these present constraints and can, and should, look forward to a brighter and healthier tomorrow.

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:

**“THE RHYTHM SECTION”:** For fans of the James Bond movies, it’s an event when those producers decide to invest — both figuratively and literally — in an outside project, because it doesn’t happen very often. Their somewhat far-fetched but still entertaining adaptation of a novel by Mark Burnell casts Blake Lively as Stephanie Patrick, an assassin-in-training who’s out for revenge upon finding out that her parents’ plane-crash deaths were not accidental. Her life takes dark turns in the immediate aftermath of her family tragedy, but after getting relevant information from a reporter (Raza Jaffrey, “Smash”), she pulls herself together and seeks mentoring in the killing game from a CIA veteran (Jude Law). However, Stephanie is not remotely as ready for action as she might think she is, and Lively plays that aspect quite well as her alter ego barely escapes from peril after peril. “This Is Us” Emmy winner Sterling K. Brown also is in the cast assembled for director Reed Morano, who made a mark (and also won an Emmy) by guiding early episodes of “The Handmaid’s Tale.”

**“ARROW: THE EIGHTH AND FINAL SEASON”:** One of The CW’s staple series has ended its run, and this set compiles the stories about DC’s Green Arrow character that marked its farewell. They open with the hero’s alter ego Oliver Queen (played by

Stephen Amell) bouncing between versions of Earth in pursuit of stolen particles that could wreak massive havoc in the universe if used for the wrong purpose. The adventure continued to move back and forth in time right up to its finale, facilitating the returns of some familiar faces certain to please fans. Series regulars Katie Cassidy and David Ramsey each directed an episode of this final round of the show. A major bonus of this release is the inclusion of the recent “Crisis on Infinite Earths” miniseries that united The CW’s superhero shows, which have been referred to collectively as the network’s “Arrowverse.”

**“THE ASSISTANT”:** The background of the film industry is explored through the experiences of the title character, played by Julia Garner, in writer-director Kitty Green’s drama based on the accounts of some who have come forward during the MeToo era. The script covers one day in the life of a assistant movie mogul’s assistant, whose developing concerns about her duties drive her to a human resources officer (Matthew Macfadyen, “Succession”) who proves less than a great resource for her. Kristine Froseth (“Looking for Alaska”) also appears as a newcomer to the tale’s ethically questionable environment, with Jay O. Sanders supplying the voice of the mogul who’s heard but never seen (not unlike the studio-boss title character during the first season of the backstage TV drama “Bracken’s World”).

*These are also available by download on Amazon Instant.*

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*I live  
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# Cambridge Crossword

(solution page 24)

## Across

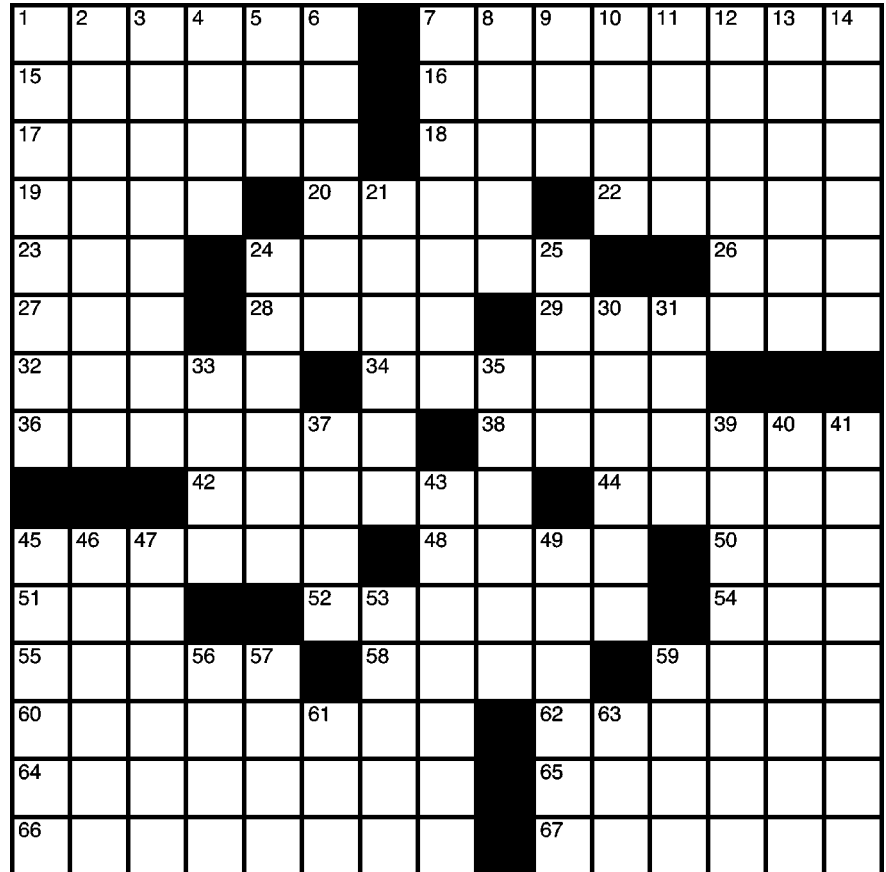
- 1 Major clothing chain  
 7 Free speech inhibitor?  
 15 Morsel  
 16 Tufted tweeter  
 17 Unspecific threat  
 18 "Right you are!"  
 19 "Women and Love" author Shere  
 20 Tach readings  
 22 Norwegian king during the Cold War  
 23 Serial sequence  
 24 Attributes  
 26 Door opener?  
 27 Where Martin Scorsese taught Oliver Stone: Abbr.  
 28 Rhein tributary  
 29 16th-century rulers  
 32 Archaeologist, at times  
 34 Capital of Kazakhstan  
 36 Disdained, with "at"

- 38 Mickey Rooney septet  
 42 Blue on screen  
 44 Last Supper query  
 45 Completely overhauled  
 48 Revival figs.  
 50 Texter's appreciation  
 51 I, perhaps  
 52 Harsh  
 54 U.N. ambassador appointed by JFK  
 55 2008 Best New Artist Grammy winner  
 58 Sweet sign-off  
 59 King Ahab's father  
 60 Different exercises performed consecutively  
 62 Boxer Rebellion setting  
 64 Cherish  
 65 Shady Records co-founder  
 66 Snakes  
 67 Event associated with warm climates and big midday meals

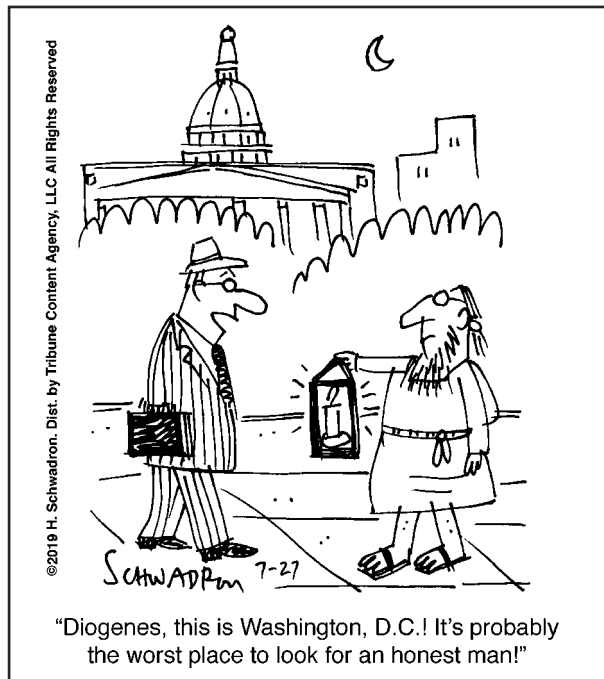
## Down

- 1 Driving instructor's reminder  
 2 "Star Trek: Voyager" actress  
 3 Initial encounter in a romcom  
 4 Fit  
 5 Frat letters  
 6 Former Nissan SUV  
 7 Hinders  
 8 "Bullets Over Broadway" Oscar winner  
 9 Sci-fi staples  
 10 Recess rejoinder  
 11 Stir up  
 12 Katy of "High Noon"  
 13 Sincere sign-off  
 14 Player of Kent  
 21 Flaunt  
 24 Fiction's Lord Greystoke  
 25 Pringles alternative  
 30 Ill-conceived  
 31 Stand for 45-Down  
 33 First name in architecture  
 35 Hybrid cuisine

- 37 "Nos \_\_\_": 2000s French-Canadian drama set in a summer home  
 39 Total assets?  
 40 One way to connect nowadays  
 41 Quality control process with an alphanumeric symbol  
 43 Allots  
 45 They involve insult comedy  
 46 Stomach  
 47 Superior, vis-à-vis Michigan  
 49 Metaphors, e.g.  
 53 Wield  
 56 Vault  
 57 Language that gave us "plaid"  
 59 Tom Joad, e.g.  
 61 Flare producer  
 63 "Big four" record company



9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



## Olde Saratoga Word Find

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

Find these words that are associated with a spring-time.

Baseball  
 Bird's Nest  
 Blooming

Blossom  
 Breeze  
 Buds  
 Bunny  
 Butterfly  
 Chick  
 Daffodils  
 Dandelions

Easter  
 Flowers  
 Gardening  
 Golf  
 Kite  
 Lawn  
 Lily  
 Plants

Pollen  
 Robin  
 Roses  
 Seeds  
 Springtime  
 Tennis  
 Tulips

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

# Salem Sudoku

(solution page 30)

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

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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

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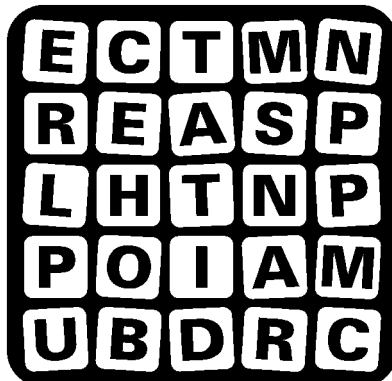
Matthew C. VanDoren, PLS  
518-692-2435  
[matt@cornerpostlandsurvey.com](mailto:matt@cornerpostlandsurvey.com)



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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 SIX SEVEN-LETTER MAMMALS in the grid of letters.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers to Boggle BrainBusters: POLICAT MANATEE PANOTHER HANSTER DOLPHIN CARIBOU

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# Rosario Dawson on 'Trek,' politics

Audrey Cleo Yap  
*Variety*  
Special to Journal & Press

Rosario Dawson may have just ended her run as Allegra Dill on USA's "Briarpatch," but she already has her sights set on the future, specifically, two major sci-fi franchises — and, possibly, politics.

"The two universes, 'Star Trek' and 'Star Wars.' I get in those two, I'm telling you, man, that's it. I will just retire. And then I can just concentrate on going to school and running for office. That would be it," Dawson revealed to *Variety* on the "Variety After-Show."

While it was reported that Dawson is already set to show off her Force powers as Ahsoka Tano in Season 2 of "The Mandalorian," the actor was tight-lipped on joining the Disney Plus series, though she credited fans for fueling the momentum for her casting.

"That's not confirmed yet but when that happens, I will be very happy. I'm very excited for that to be confirmed at some point," she said, adding it would be "a million and one percent because of the fans."

As for "Star Trek," Dawson admitted she would be happy to be a background Romulan or Vulcan, although she said her father gave her the idea of playing a different role: Q, the omnipotent being seen across various "Star Trek" series.

"I mean it would be great 'cause then I could jump on 'Discovery.' I could be on 'Picard.' I just want to be with Jean-Luc Picard," said the self-

proclaimed Trekkie.

It would be a departure from her most recent role in "Briarpatch" as Dill, the gritty investigator who returns to her small (and corrupt) Texas hometown of San Bonifacio to help solve the murder of her younger sister. The series was based on the book of the same name by Ross Thomas, the protagonist of which was originally a white man.

The neo-noir series, originally conceived as an anthology, has not been confirmed for a second season, although Dawson said she would happily return to the character.

"It felt like doing theater, you know, where you do so much, and it's only there in that one moment. And then it's gone," said Dawson of the show's 10-episode run, the finale of which culminated in (SPOILER) Dill solving her sister's murder, grappling with her own culpability in abandoning her as an adult and driving away from San Bonifacio, likely forever.

In 2018, Dawson told *Variety* about her political aspirations and possibly running for office. It's still an option, she said. She has been holding live



Rosario Dawson

sessions on her Instagram with boyfriend, New Jersey senator Cory Booker, to help answer questions about the stimulus package the Senate recently passed in light of the coronavirus pandemic (the two are currently on opposite coasts, although Dawson does have an oversized teddy bear named "Bae," who wears a Cory button, in his honor).

"Are people having to lose

their homes over this? Are people able to have the safety gear that they need? Are people able to keep paying their rent? Are people being paid a living wage? Do people have access to healthcare?" said Dawson. "It's a really critical moment, I think, for people. If you're feeling bored, to understand that that's a privilege 'cause there's a lot of people in severe alarm right now."

## Get an e-library card

Easton Library would like everyone in our coverage area to know that they may obtain a library card instantly online if they do not already have one. OverDrive Instant Card is up and running on the SALON site. The option to sign up for a card to access OverDrive content immediately using a phone number is now available via the sign in page. OverDrive is the site where one can browse, borrow, and enjoy titles from the Southern Adiron-

dack Library System digital collection. Go to: <https://salon.overdrive.com/> to sign up for an instant digital card to access OverDrive.

Patrons can also sign up for an instant digital card via the Libby app. The process is simple! OverDrive has offered Instant Card to us for free during the pandemic. Please visit Easton Library at [easton.sals.edu](http://easton.sals.edu). Its physical doors may be closed, but our virtual doors are open 24/7.

# The Village in the time of pandemic

**Pam Fuller**  
*Journal & Press*

I know I'm not the only one who feels a bit of whiplash—things have changed for all of us so quickly. Here in the Village government, the things we do are all considered essential. The Village government has to keep moving forward, and our big projects are part of this. We have to keep paying the bills, keep the water plant running, the fire department operating, and keep our police on the streets, since they are even more in demand than ever. And in the middle of all of this, it's our budget time, and the deadlines haven't moved for passing a 2020-2021 budget. Our budget year begins on June 1, and municipal budgets end on the last day of May, with a new one beginning on the first day of June. Last night at a special budget workshop we passed the new budget for this next fiscal year. We worked hard to create a budget that holds taxes at last year's level.

Let's go through how the Village department are managing with the current situation, because our goal has been and is to keep our personnel safe from becoming infected and/or infecting people around us, and to adopt practices that keep the public safe.

Our Village Board has moved our meetings to a virtual platform. So we still have public meetings, and the public can attend virtually, as we do. Mayor Fuller; Village Trustees Brown, Edsforth, Robinson and Vandewater; DPW Superintendent Leo Flynn; Fire Department Chief Mike White; Sargent Bob Danko; Village Clerk Jane Dowling; and Village Treasurer Karen

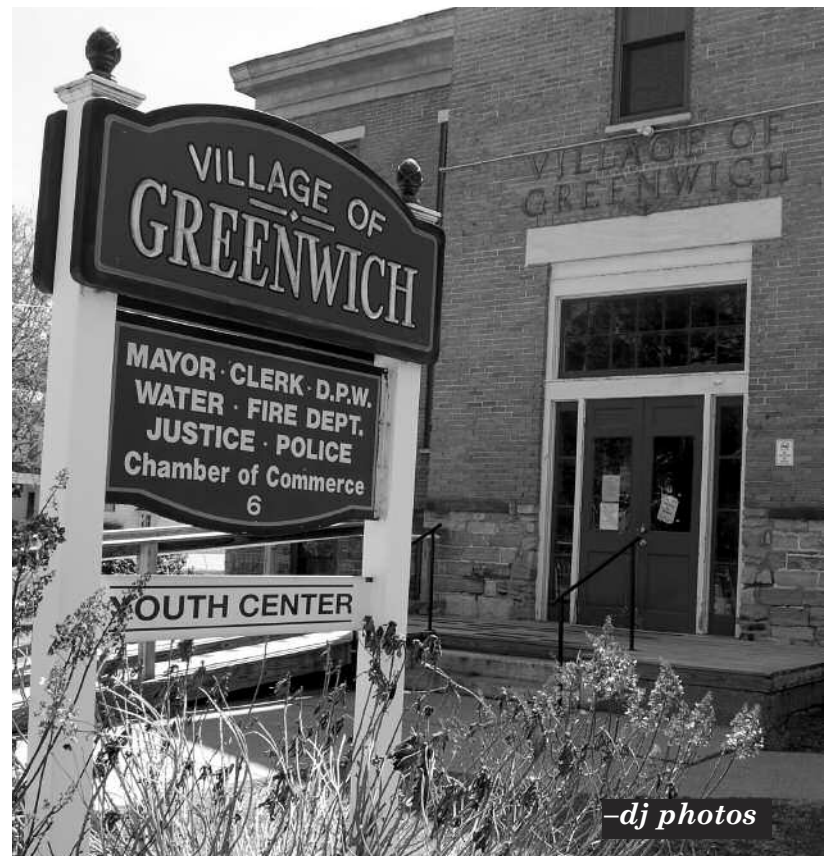
### 'The number of police calls has risen.'

Prime all join the meetings from home by clicking on a link to our video conference call. We're all getting used to this new way of meeting, and it's not perfect, but we need to do it this way for now.

Our Village office. Even though we had to close the office to the general public, we need to keep operating. So we developed a plan to keep the office open on a limited basis so residents can pay water and sewer bills and also buy dump stickers. We are open on Tuesdays to the public. If you come to the Village office door, you'll see a table with hand sanitizer to use before touching anything. And there are directions for carrying out the transactions. We ask that if you have bills to pay, you slip the payment through the mail slot in the door. We will mail receipts back. We prefer that people pay their bills by mail, and dump stickers are still available at Hannaford. Our Clerk and Treasurer work on a staggered schedule, but someone is in the office every day, and residents can reach us by phone at 518-692-2755. If residents need help with transportation, shopping or other personal needs, a group of volunteers is available to help. And the Village has an inventory of cloth masks for residents who need them.

The Fire Department is there when we need them for fire and other emergencies, as always. They quickly adjusted their ways of operating, conducting meetings and trainings through virtual platforms too. Indoor calls are a challenge, as they are for the police department and the DPW, and we are doing all we can to protect ourselves and residents from exposure during calls.

The DPW crew is working on all the



spring projects on a staggered schedule. We're operating with half of the full team on any project at a time, to avoid the situation where the whole crew would be quarantined if one person developed the virus.

Our Police Department is on duty on a full schedule, as usual. This is a time of extreme stress for lots of people. Many people have lost their businesses and their jobs, kids are supposed to do their schoolwork at home, and we are all worried at the same time about getting sick or infecting people we care about. The number of police calls have risen, and a concerning number of these have been for domestic disputes. New York State's COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline number is 844-863-9314.

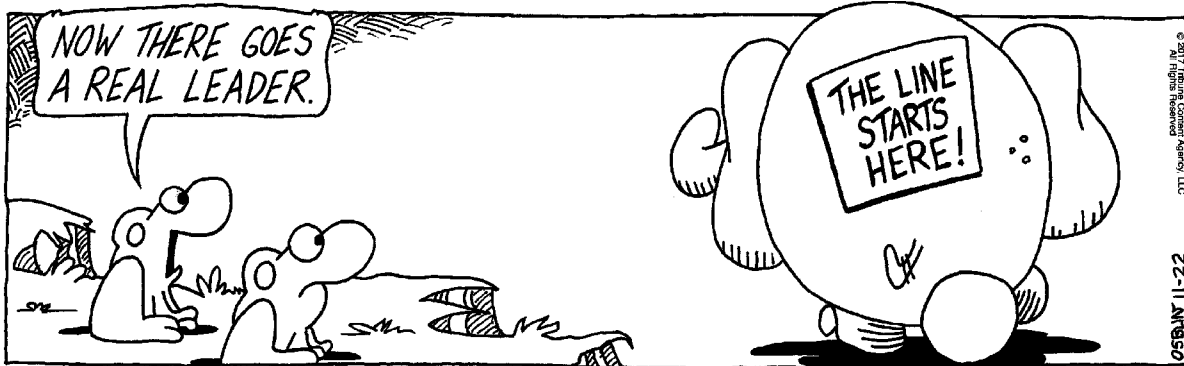
We look forward to the time when we can see and talk to you in person! Until then, stay safe and protect each other.

*Pam Fuller is Mayor of the Village of Greenwich.*



# The Funny Page

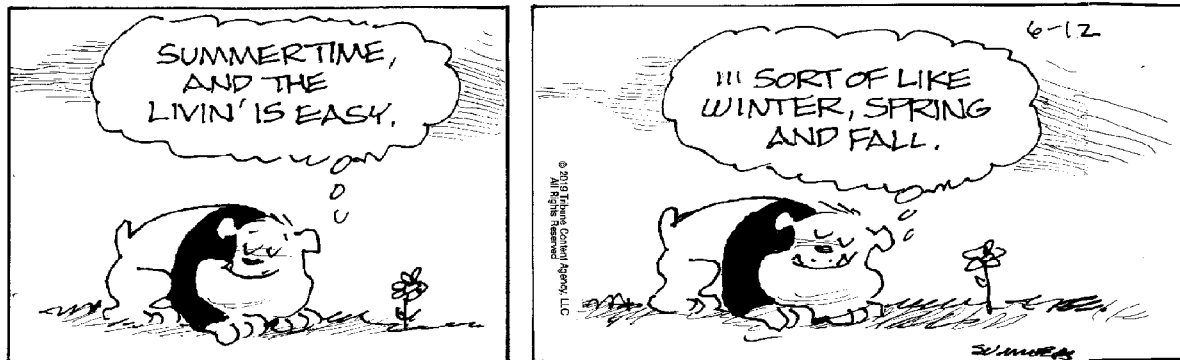
## Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



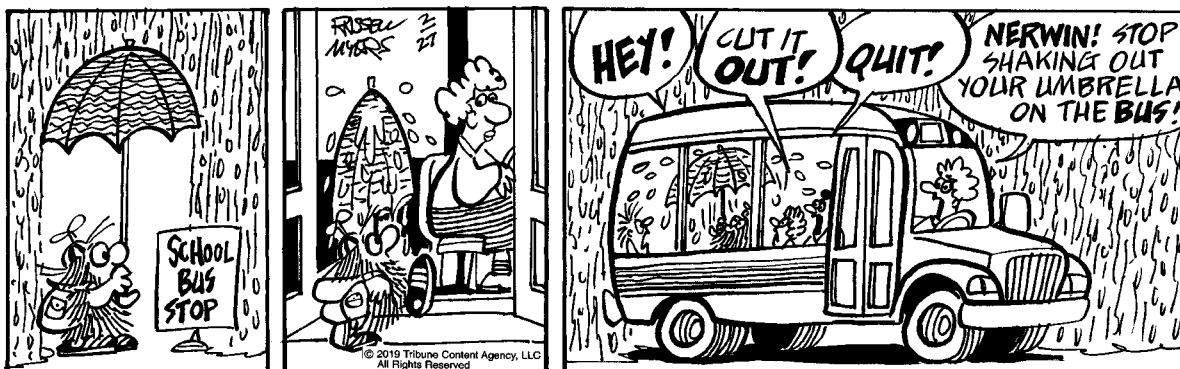
## Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



## Bound & Gagged by Dana Summers



## Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



## SCRABBLE GRAMS

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A <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	W <sub>4</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	RACK 1
A <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	Y <sub>4</sub>	G <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>	Double Word Score RACK 2
A <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	Y <sub>4</sub>	M <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	2nd Letter Triple RACK 3
A <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	Z <sub>10</sub>	RACK 4
A <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	W <sub>4</sub>	M <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	RACK 5

PAR SCORE 280-290  
BEST SCORE 350  
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 01-26

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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

DAAPN	BEFLA	LAVELY	PILUHL
-------	-------	--------	--------

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THE BIRD NEVER GOT UPSET OR PERTURBED AND WAS ALWAYS COMPOSED. HE WAS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here:

Answer: The bird never got upset or perturbed and was always composed. He was — UNFLAPPABLE

Jumbles: PANDA FABLE FABLE VALLEY UPHILL

T	J	M	A	X	S	W	E	A	R	J	A	R
W	E	E	B	I	T	T	I	T	M	O	U	S
O	R	E	L	S	E	Y	E	S	S	I	R	E
H	I	T	E	R	P	M	S	O	L	A	V	V
A	R	C	T	R	A	I	T	S	D	E	E	
N	Y	U	A	A	R	E	T	A	T	U	D	O
D	A	T	E	R	A	S	T	A	N	A		
S	N	E	E	Z	E	D	E	X	W	I	V	E
			R	A	T	E	D	X	I	S	I	T
R	E	D	O	N	E	E	M	T	S	T	H	X
O	N	E	S	E	V	E	R	E	A	E	S	
A	D	E	L	E	X	O	X	O	O	M	R	I
S	U	P	E	R	S	E	T	P	E	K	I	N
T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	E	M	I	N	E
S	E	R	P	E	N	T	S	S	I	E	S	T

# Comfort Food gets \$50K gift

Comfort Food Community (CFC) has experienced several changes during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since March 2020, new households needing assistance have increased weekly, multiple procedure adjustments were made to limit contact between visitors and volunteers during pantry services, volunteers have decreased due to their own health risks, and CFC has adapted to home delivering food to the elderly and immunocompromised with the help of the Interfaith Van-Go Bus.

Due to these challenges in personnel, demand, and operations, The Hortense and Louis Rubin Community Health Fund of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region has awarded \$50,000 to expand food access and community health services at CFC. Comfort Food Community thanks The Hortense and Louis Rubin Fund and Community Foundation boards for their generous support during these challenging times.

CFC will use this generous award to hire a Community Health Worker (CHW) to assist in pantry management and home deliveries during the pandemic. The Community Health Worker will aid pantry guests in navigating health and social resources such as unemployment, SNAP,



teaching from home, and other services depending on individual need. When the pandemic subsides, the CHW will provide nutrition and culinary education during pantry services as well as offer nutritional support and health coaching to individuals with chronic illnesses.

Please visit [www.comfortfoodcommunity.org](http://www.comfortfoodcommunity.org) to learn more about their programs or to apply for the Community Health Worker position.

## Coronavirus and stress

*Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress. Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger.*

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media.



Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.

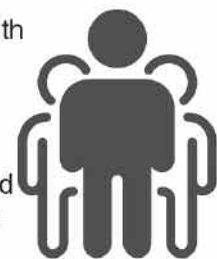
- Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and drugs.



- Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.



- Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.



Source: CDC  
Graphic: Staff, TNS

## Highway chief is cover story

Greenwich Town Highway Superintendent Stan Mattison is on the cover of the May 2020 Profile Magazine.

Mattison has lived in Greenwich his whole life and married Sandy Mattison 40 years ago. In 2000, there was an opening at the Greenwich Highway Department, so he jumped at the opportunity to work for his hometown and worked as a MEO there until in 2011; that's when he decided it was time to run for the job of Highway Superintendent. He won the election and has been highway super since then.

In the article, Mattison answers several questions, including:

**Most challenging job?** "Winter storms and keeping the roads safe for the taxpayers, especially the kids going to school."

**Most frustrating?** "Getting taxpayers to understand that we can't be everywhere at once."

**Most important?** "Keeping everyone happy. You have to take care of your staff, and if the taxpayers aren't happy, we don't have a

job."



Find the full article online at [profilepublications.com](http://profilepublications.com).

Free ads for small, local businesses affected by COVID-19.

Contact [editor@3owire.com](mailto:editor@3owire.com).



## Letter: Sidewalk makes no sense

### SNAP Is Here to Help

Dear Editor,

I've lived in Greenwich for over 65 years. In that time, I have traveled over the bridge in Middle Falls hundreds of times. To the best of my knowledge there has never been a raised walkway on the West side of the bridge.

I don't see why some people think we need one now. There are no business to walk to close to the bridge on that side of the roadway. Some people seem to think it would be good to be able to gain access to the Battenkill River below the dam with their canoe or kayak. But in 65 years, I've never observed anyone carrying a watercraft across the bridge. Most people drive to the entry point on the Battenkill Coun-

try Club road and off-load their boat.

It's my understanding that the cost of a sidewalk on the west side will be on the order of \$400,000! I had no idea that New York State had this kind of money to burn.

Finally, two Supervisors – one Democrat and one Republican, supported by the Town of Greenwich Road Commissioner, turned down this idea starting in 2018 when it was first discussed.

A bad idea, not wanted by Greenwich Town government and maintenance costs not supported by Greenwich or Easton – makes NO sense.

**Morgan Snyder**  
Greenwich



It's temporarily a one-lane highway. -dj

## Put employees first

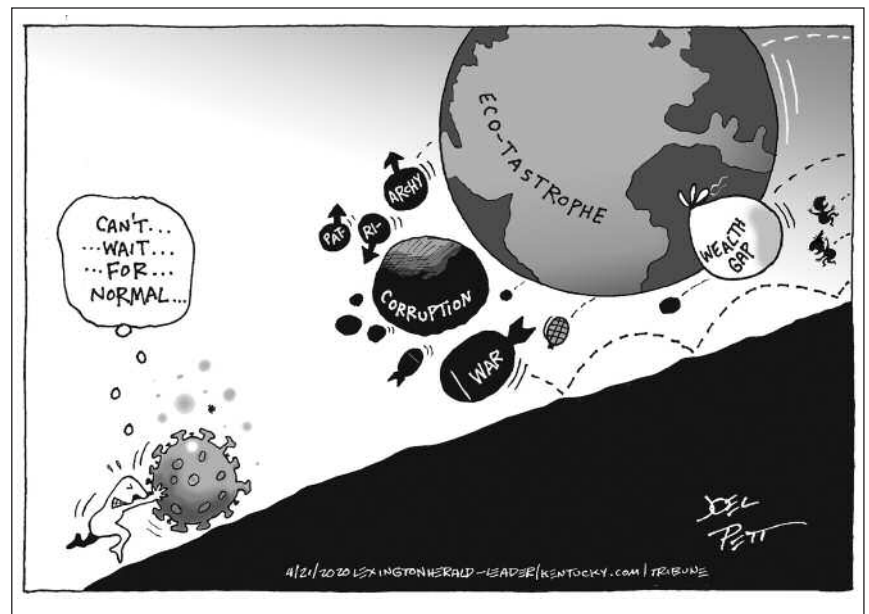
We won't often use this space to name a private business. And every now and then we get an anonymous "tip" that a business isn't doing well by its employees, though it's hard to do a story based on anonymous reports. But Trustco Bank in Greenwich was closed for cleaning as of press time, its employees sent home, and we'd been receiving anonymous reports from more than a couple of employees feeling that, in this COVID-19 epidemic, the bank hadn't been using best practices. They had complained to their bosses to no avail. And, frankly, it was odd that this bank has been fully open. Other banks are drive-thru only, if they are open at all. Some have state-of-the-art ATMs that can do everything a teller could do except give your dog a biscuit. Customers can do online deposits, as well. Other local businesses that have drive-thrus, like McDonald's and Dunkin Donuts, also have closed their lobbies. Though part of the blame for the anxiety, too, goes to customers who go into the branch without masks, as if this pandemic had never happened. If they had questions, they could have simply called. If they wanted to withdraw money, they could go to the ATM. And, also to be fair, lots of businesses have been closed due to COVID-19 through no fault of the business. But, the complaints we received should be a lesson to all



The Greenwich branch, closed as of press time.

PR-conscious business owners: Listen to your employees on the ground-level. If they feel unsafe, accommodate them. And customers, realize the challenges and worries of frontline workers.

### 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](mailto: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!

# Where to get free Wi-Fi

During this time of working from home and online schooling, accessibility to good Wi-Fi is more important now than ever before. Unfortunately, some local families do not have it, and since libraries and coffee shops have shut their doors due to COVID-19 essential business protocol, many do not know where to turn to fulfill their duties as workers and students.

The Greenwich YMCA is now offering free, outdoor Wi-Fi to



all who need it. Users can sit in their cars or utilize one of the picnic tables donated by Battenkill Conservancy. The indoor facilities are closed at this time, but the parking lot will be empty, so social distancing will be a breeze. The YMCA wanted to make Wi-Fi accessible to locals without WIFI or with weak signals in the area, as trying to log on to the internet to complete work should not be a stressor during this already panic inducing pandemic. To use it, simply go to [srymca.org](http://srymca.org) and type [ymcacomunity](http://ymcacomunity) when prompted for a password.

According to a press release issued on April 24th, "Scott Clark, Vice President of Operations, was quick to respond positively to Lorraine Merghart Ballard's request on behalf of the Schuylerville Small Business Association. The

idea is part of a larger effort to find creative ways to help area businesses and the general public during the mandated 'pause' due to Covid-19."

The Greenwich Free Library has also been offering free WIFI to the public 24/7, and now they are keeping a list of additional local businesses and facilities doing the same. Some of those spots are, Argyle Free Library, Easton Library, Ballston Spa Public Library, and the Greenwich McDonald's parking lot. To access the Greenwich Free Library's full list of local WIFI spots with passwords, visit [greenwichfreelibrary.org/community-wifi-spots](http://greenwichfreelibrary.org/community-wifi-spots).



As an educator, I can confirm that it is far too easy to assume that all people have easy access to fast, clear Wi-Fi and technology in modern day society, but that is not always the case, and people from all socio-economic backgrounds need to connect and find ways to make sure everybody is covered. Greenwich's strong sense of community has been magnificent throughout the pandemic, and this is just another example of the greatness we can accomplish if we work together.

*-Kaylee Johnson*

## Obituary

# Thomas P. Cullen, 75, GCS custodian

Long time resident of Greenwich, Thomas P. Cullen Jr. passed away at the age of 75 on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at Saratoga Hospital following a brief illness.

Thomas was born on September 12, 1944 in NYC to the late Thomas P. Cullen Sr. and Mary (Sheehan) Cullen.

Tom served a short time in the United States Army after

high school. He moved to Upstate New York in his late twenties where he resided until his passing. He was dedicated to his career and family and was always willing to help whenever he could. Tom retired after 26 years from the Greenwich Central School in 2008, where he worked as a custodian.

In addition to his parents he

was predeceased by his two sisters and brother.

Thomas is survived by his daughter Bridgett Cullen (Scott) of Greenwich; five grandchildren who he was blessed with, Alex Stevens (Angela), Emily Stevens (Michael) Chloe Stevens, Lillian and Nataly Knapp all of Greenwich; sister Margaret of NJ.

Tom was also a big part of the lives of the Brockway Family in Greenwich.

A funeral service will be held at the convenience of the family and announced at a later date.

Online condolences and mes-



sages to the family may be made at [www.flynnbrosinc.com](http://www.flynnbrosinc.com).

## Obituaries policy

The Journal & Press does not charge for obituaries from the families of longtime subscribers. Please send to [editor@journalandpress.com](mailto: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.

# Thoughts in solitude

**Irene Baldwin**  
*Journal & Press*

Being alone for an extended period of time can give a person time to reminisce, to think and wonder about things that have gone before. The pandemic has given some of us solitary hours for reflection. I have been thinking about my grandmother, Evalyn Iona Priest Crandall. Nanny, as her five granddaughters called her, was born in the Salem area in 1905 and lived there all of her life. She was one of eight children born to Clarence Priest (1869) and Clara Harrington Priest (1867). Here are the Priest siblings' names written in order. Let's allow them to be in a family group one last time: Rena, William, Elsie, Edward, Jay, Louis, Evalyn and Irene. My grandparents, Evalyn and Joe Crandall, had one child together, my mother, Dorothy Evalyn Crandall Matteson.

My grandmother was an incredibly hard and resourceful worker who was a dynamo not much taller than five feet. To make ends meet, she plucked the feathers from turkeys at Petersen's on Route 372 and

Thygesen's in Cossayuna during the holiday seasons. She picked potatoes from the fields at Royce Atwater's potato farm in Rupert. She cleaned cottages at Lake Lauderdale for the Parsley family. Her sturdy hands showed the ravages of such labor. But she was always jolly and had fun playing cards with her granddaughters and telling us stories about her life. Nanny accepted us for who we were. Evelyn never made it to junior high at the brick Academy on West Broadway. Nevertheless, she had beautiful handwriting, perfect spelling and was a whiz at numbers and frugality. Each granddaughter and eventual great grandchild was sent a card with two dollars tucked inside for every birthday. She never forgot.

Nanny passed away over thirty years ago. At the time all of us felt so very bad that she was alone when she died in her little trailer home two days after Valentine's Day. The police had to open the door as we waited anxiously behind them.

We found her sitting peacefully on the couch, her arms crossed and her hands folded. On the coffee table was an English muffin with one bite taken out of it and a cold cup of tea that she had not yet finished drinking. Channel Six, her favorite, was still on the television. She wore an old timey hairnet probably to protect her latest perm from losing its curl. I touched her face and the medical examiner barked at me not to do that. Our grandmother had passed peacefully at seventy-nine years old. Now at my age, I don't feel sorry about her serene death anymore.

My sisters and I come from a long line of women who were often alone and often isolated in their solitude. My matriarchal great grandmother had many children and a handsome husband who was not, to put it

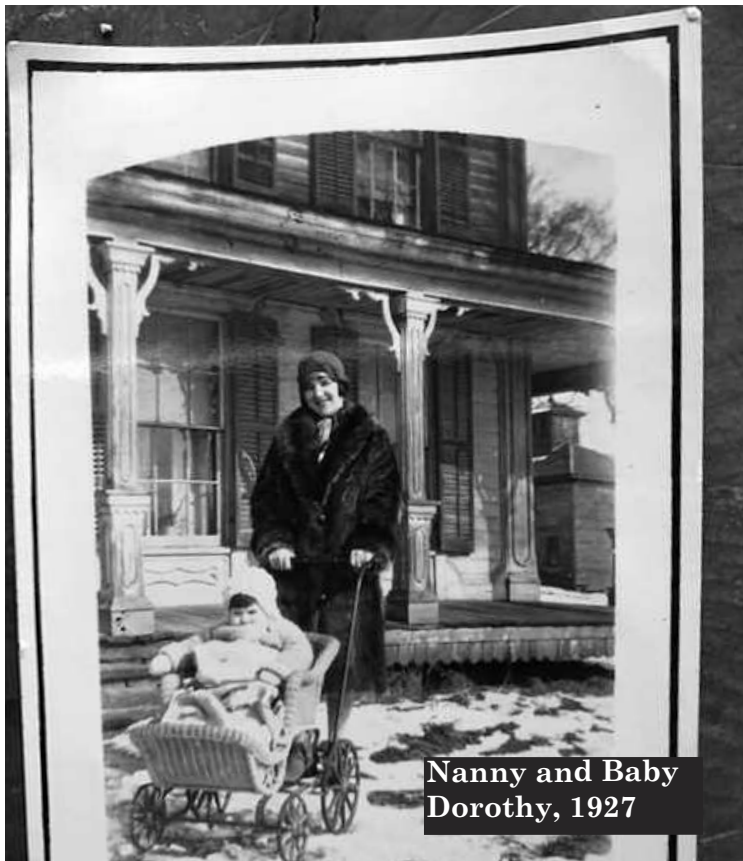
kindly, a stabilizing force within the family. It appeared he came around driving his horse and buggy long enough to begin another life and then depart. I saw a picture once of Clara with her children outside of an old farmhouse. Everyone was lined up in a serious line, not a smile among them. And there was Clara surrounded by her barefoot children, her hair swept up in a bun; her stoic face stern. She wore a full dark skirt, a long-sleeved blouse and a plain white apron. To survive, Clara took in laundry and then delivered baskets of laundered clothes to those who paid pennies for the service.

Clara saved those pennies and was eventually able to buy a little house on North Main Street in Salem. The purchase was from the family of a man she took care of when he became infirm. She paid \$600 for her new home. Today, my sister Sharon and her husband Bruce own Clara's house. They have renovated it and it is now a rental. I'm glad it is still in our family.

My mother was eighty-two when she died. Dorothy loved her home. After my father died, she lived by herself in their house on East Broadway for twenty years. She had her German Shepherds for company and her five daughters' visits, but she was alone and content.

I have never thought of my own situation as "living alone." But since the pandemic, I have realized that yes, I am living alone. It is not a bad state to be in. I enjoy my home, my lawn, my animals, visitors and my much valued freedom. If I had one wish, I would ask for a very special meeting. Clara, Evelyn, Dorothy and I could sit at my dining room table sipping our cups of tea, four independent women who are closely related. We would talk about our lives, the many different paths we took, and the similarities we share. If I had my wish.

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



**Nanny and Baby Dorothy, 1927**

# How nursing homes are coping

**Darren Johnson**  
*Journal & Press*

In mid-April, I chatted with Jeffrey Jacomowitz, Director of Corporate Communications for Centers Health Care, which is based in the Bronx. His company runs adult care facilities locally, including Washington Center, Slate Valley Center, Warren Center, Granville Center and Glens Falls Center. While he deferred any direct questions about COVID-19 to county officials, he did offer a glimpse into how they are operating in this crisis. Our Q&A:

**J&P:** *What measures are you taking to ensure the safety of residents and staff?*

**JJ:** Since early March, all clinical staff personnel are dressed in DOH and CDC PPE gear, as per the state guidelines. This gear protects the staff as well as our residents from contracting

the COVID-19 virus.

**J&P:** *How are the seniors doing from a morale perspective?*

**JJ:** Since March 11, when we put each facility into full visitor restrictions, the Recreation Staff and Leadership have been working hard to keep residents entertained and active during this time. Each facility has provided their residents a number of means of communication with their loved ones, such as access and usage to Skype, FaceTime, email, texting and phones. We understand that these are trying times for them, but our staff have been superior with getting our seniors through this.

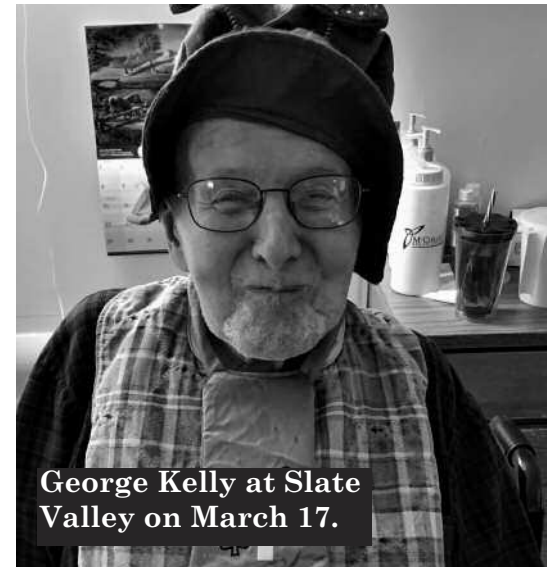
**J&P:** *Your company is known for bringing in interesting entertainers usually. What are you doing in lieu of that?*

**JJ:** Yes, our Recreations Departments are known for their

creativity with entertainment. Whether it's the spring harvest as residents now are starting to plant in their inside planters or taking part in the #518RainbowHunt, such as the one taking place at our Warren Center where uplifting rainbows are drafted by the residents, there are so many internal activities taking place at all of our facilities in the Adirondacks.

**J&P:** *How can people from the outside help?*

**JJ:** The best thing that people can do is the stay home and practice six-foot social distancing if they have to go out to the supermarket. We understand that people want to donate, but even that can be risky. Please stay home, work from home if you can, we have to cut the lines of



**George Kelly at Slate Valley on March 17.**

the virus.

**J&P:** *Any closing thoughts?*

**JJ:** I say this from the heart that the care of our residents and staff are first and foremost our number one priority. This pandemic is something we have never seen before so we need to keep our residents and staff safe from this virus.

## Mulling the Fair

The Washington County Fair sent out this statement on April 24 about its upcoming summer events:

*During this time of NY PAUSE our staff, directors, and committees, are still hard at work at our homes planning the 2020 Washington County Fair. This year marks our 60th year at our current location on Old Schuylerville Rd!*

*Our team has been and will continue to monitor the current health crisis and will continue to do so, making informed decisions when the time is right on all of our events scheduled to happen on the grounds this summer including Volunteer Day, July 4th Celebration, and the August Antique Show.*



*While we wait for summer visit our website for up to date information on the 2020 Washington County Fair and for "Fair Fun at Home" activities including crafts, recipes, movie recommenda-*

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*tions, and recorded book readings from members of the Washington County Fair Jr. Committee and the second alternate New York State Dairy Princess Erin Armitage.*

# JOURNAL & PRESS

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By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics visit [FilbertCartoons.com](http://FilbertCartoons.com)

## Classified Ads

### 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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# Greenwich trustees hear reports

**Darren Johnson**  
*Journal & Press*

The Village of Greenwich Board of Trustees met virtually using a meeting app on April 13. After some glitches, people tuning in got to hear various reports and a presentation by Chazen Engineering Consultants of Glens Falls on the chance for the village and town to get a Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) grant.

Sgt. Robert Danko, who heads the Cambridge-Greenwich Police Department, said that three arrests were made in March and the department received many calls and also issued seven traffic tickets.

“We’ve been getting a lot of calls about people not respecting social distancing,” he said. “But social distancing is a suggestion, not a law. It’s nothing we can enforce yet. We’re waiting for a change in the law, but right now it’s not something we can enforce with 911.”

He said that speed signs will be up soon near Greenwich Schools.

Too, he added, a certain type of crime was happening more often during this pandemic: “Domestics are on the rise. People are starting to get antsy with being locked up together. We’re hoping we can make it a couple of more weeks and keep things as peaceful as possible.”

Fire Department Chief Mike White said that his crew answered 18 calls in the previous month for a total of nearly 500 combined

hours. Volunteers are practicing social distancing and disinfecting equipment.

Representing the Greenwich Youth Center, James Mumby said that kids will return to 10 new computers: “We’re looking forward to seeing the smiles from the kids when they get back. We’re going from the 1990s to the 21st century.”

Chazen’s Norabelle Greenberger briefed the board on a \$222,000 Department of State BOA grant that would help the village create a masterplan to revitalize its waterfront and determine what to do with the abandoned Dunbarton Mill site. Parts of the town up to the traffic circle would also be included. The village would need to match 10 percent of the amount, if approved. The board told Chazen to move ahead with the grant application.

It was also noted that another village grant, an Anchor Grant, is starting to bear fruit, and, after New York “un-pauses,” the Wallie’s property is “all set to go,” it was said.

In other news, Mr. Ding-a-Ling can operate an ice cream truck in the village. Also, the village received no



bids on a working jet-ski that had been owned by the fire department. It will be put up for auction again.

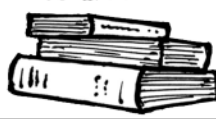
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The Journal & Press is looking for a college journalism student to serve as Editor-in-Chief this summer. Stipend available. The right candidate will learn all aspects of newspaper work and must have a can-do attitude, writerly flair and desire to learn page layout. Contact [editor@journalandpress.com](mailto:editor@journalandpress.com) if interested in this opportunity.

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