

# The Gazette

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Ridgefield Park • Rutherford • South Hackensack • Teterboro • Wallington • Wood-Ridge  
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## SPRING-*ing*

The hyacinths, daffodils and tulips pierce a dreary winter landscape. Dogwood, cherry, lilac, forsythia and magnolia trees spring to their glory. The days are getting longer. Robins have arrived and migratory birds visit. Plant sales spring up. Neighbors rake last year's wind-blown leaves, cleaning up their yards and planting grass seed, anticipating a carpet of green. The joys of nature have returned. *See pages 10 and 11.*

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**Summer schedule:**

- Summer 1 – May 18 - June 29
- Summer U – May 18 - Aug. 4
- Summer 2 – July 1 - Aug. 4
- Summer 3 – Aug. 5 - 20

**Fall schedule:**

- Fall 1 – Sept. 2 - Dec. 21
- Fall 2 – Sept. 23 - Dec. 21
- Flex 1 – Sept. 2 - Oct. 26
- Flex 2 – Oct. 27 - Dec. 21

Before registering, make sure you file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that can help unlock programs such as the tuition-free Community College Opportunity Grant, which now includes households making up to \$65,000 per year.

Email [registration@bergen.edu](mailto:registration@bergen.edu) for assistance.

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**Steps you can take to prevent spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent Coronavirus:**

- Wash hands often with soap and water. If not available, use hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Stay home while you are sick and avoid contact with others
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing

Source [https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019\\_community.shtml](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml)

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We sincerely hope you and your families are safe and well. While our office is closed to visitors, we are all working from our homes and ready to help. So please don't hesitate to call us if we can be of assistance. Whether related to insurance or regarding this current crisis, we will do whatever we can to help you.

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## IRS Extends Filing Date

According to the March 21, 2020 IRS Press Release:

The 2019 income tax filing and payment deadlines for all taxpayers who file and pay their Federal income taxes on April 15, 2020, are automatically extended until July 15, 2020. This relief applies to all individual returns, trusts, and corporations. This relief is automatic, taxpayers do not need to file any additional forms or call the IRS to qualify.

This relief also includes estimated tax payments for tax year 2020 that are due on April 15, 2020.

Penalties and interest will begin to accrue on any remaining unpaid balances as of July 16, 2020. You will automatically avoid interest and penalties on the taxes paid by July 15.

Individual taxpayers who need additional time to file beyond the July 15 deadline can request a filing extension by filing Form 4868 through their tax professional, tax software or using the Free File link on IRS.gov. Businesses who need additional time must file Form 7004. ###

April 1 -- New Jersey taxes are now due by July 15, instead of April 15, Gov. Phil Murphy announced Wednesday, making it the last state with an income tax to push back its tax filing deadline.

The legislative leaders will also extend the state fiscal year to Sept. 30, from June 30. ###

## Blue Mass Canceled

The Wood-Ridge Blue Mass scheduled for 9:30 a.m., May 17, 2020, at the Church of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady, has been canceled.

Questions may be directed to Councilman Ezio Altamura, who serves as liaison to the WRPD, at [ealtamura@njwo-odridge.org](mailto:ealtamura@njwo-odridge.org). ###

**Show Your Colors ...**



**May 25, 2020**

## Historically Speaking

By James J. Halloran



The word PANDEMIC describes the widespread occurrence of a disease. This has been applied to outbreaks of Cholera, Bubonic Plague, Smallpox, Influenza and HIV/AIDS in recorded history.

The Novel (NEW) Coronavirus of 2019 (COVID-19), is the latest of many pandemics or plagues that have attacked mankind throughout history. Some of the worst were the following.

- **ANTONINE or GALEN PLAGUE.** This plague was first recorded in 165 AD. Roman soldiers, returning from Mesopotamia, unknowingly spread this disease. It would affect Italy, Greece, Egypt and Asia Minor. While the true cause is not known, it has been speculated that it was Smallpox or Measles. This plague claimed 5 million lives.
- **SMALLPOX** has been found in Egyptian mummies dating back to 1157 BC. It was not eradicated until the middle of the twentieth century. It may have caused the death of over a billion people in total.
- **THE PLAGUE OF JUSTINIAN.** Named after the Roman Emperor Justinian. This was the first recorded outbreak of the Bubonic Plague. During the years of 541–542, a quarter of the population of the Eastern Mediterranean, about 25 million, succumbed. At its height, it was reported that as many as 5,000 a day died.
- **THE BLACK DEATH.** This was again the Bubonic Plague. It spread from Asia to Europe and Africa in 1346. Merchant ships carried infected rats and fleas to major trading ports. For the next seven years this plague would ravage Europe. Between 75 to 200 million would succumb.

During this time the first quarantine was imposed. Quarantine comes from Italian “quaranta,” meaning the number forty. This period of time was chosen from references in the Bible.

The idea was that the arriving ship needed time to rid its self of the “sick vapors.” In fact, in the forty-day period, the infected rats and sailors had died, stopping the spread of the Plague.

- **THE CHOLERA PANDEMIC** of 1852-1860. Originating from the Ganges River Delta of India, it ravaged Asia, Europe, Africa, North and South America. Over 1 million died.

Dr. John Snow, while

working in London during the height of the pandemic, plotted a number of the cases to an infected well. He identified contaminated water as the cause of Cholera transmission to the population of London.

- **THE RUSSIAN FLU.** In 1889, this Flu strain originated in Central Asia (Turkistan). It spread to Canada and Greenland and then to the many urban areas around the globe. In all, about a million died from this.
- **THE SPANISH FLU.** The Flu appeared in 1918 among the armies fighting the First World War. Wartime censorship concealed the true figures of those affected. However, Spain, a neutral and free of censorship, reported the number of cases in their country. Because of this it was called the “Spanish” Flu. This Flu spread around the world. There were reported 25 million deaths in the first 25 weeks. The Pandemic would not end until 1920. In all, 50 million deaths would be attributed to the Flu.
- **THE ASIAN FLU.** Originated in China in 1956. It killed about 2 million people, with 69,800 in the US.
- **THE HONG KONG FLU.** First reported on July 13, 1968, in Hong Kong, China, within three months it had spread around the world. Total deaths were just over a million people.
- **HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC.** There are currently between 31 to 35 million people living with HIV. The majority are living in Sub-Saharan Africa. New treatments have made HIV more manageable. Still, 36 million have succumbed to this killer since 1981.

We are now facing a new Pandemic called COVID-19. There are recommended methods to survive this Pandemic.

They are: Stay at home. If you must go out, keep your distance. Stay at least six feet from others. Wear a cloth face covering. Do not gather in person. Contact family, friends and associates on the phone, Face Time, Zoom or E-mail. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Don't touch yours eyes, nose or mouth. Cover your cough or sneeze. If you are sick, stay home and self-isolate! Avoid contact with people who are sick. Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that you touch.

As Governor Philip Murphy says “We are JERSEY STRONG.” ###



St. John’s Annual Plant Sale

Mark your calendars! Spring is just around the corner and it is time to start planning your gardens.

For the 41st Annual Plant Sale, nursery grown plants and flowers and hanging pots will be available for pick-up just in time for Mother’s Day, May 10, at St. John’s Parish Hall, Hasbrouck Heights, on Friday, May 8, 2020. There will not be any

Mother’s Day: Give A Blanket

Once again, the Guild of Reformed Church Women of First Reformed Church, Hasbrouck Heights, invite you to participate in their annual Blanket of Honor Sunday project. These \$10 donations per blanket, in honor of or in memory of any or all the significant women in your life, will be accepted through May 6, 2020, for inclusion in the Mother’s Day bulletin, May 10. The proceeds will be used by Church World Service to provide new blankets to be distributed to families wherever and whenever a disaster occurs, whether natural or man-made.

These blankets are used in a multitude of ways, not just for warmth. They provide a measure of dignity, a refuge, a source of protection, a means of carrying all one’s belongings, a message that someone cares for them, wherever they may be in the world.

Please mail your check (\$10 per blanket) and send to First Reformed Church of Hasbrouck Heights, PO Box 66, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604. Please include the name(s) of the women you wish to honor or remember.

The Guild women appreciate your assistance, as do the recipients, whether locally, nationally or world-wide. For further informationn call 201-288-1122. ###

plants available on Saturday. Only pre-orders for the 41st Annual St. John’s Plant Sale are being accepted and due by Tuesday, May 5, 2020. Flats, which contain one kind/one color, are \$12. Pre-order forms are available by calling 201-288-9460 and leaving a message.

All plants are of the highest quality. As in previous years, all plants are hand picked at the nursery by experienced gardeners. There will be other plants available along with pots of plants when pre-orders are picked up. ###

Classic Car and Motorcycle Show Canceled

The Nam Knights of America have canceled their Annual Classic Car and Motorcycle Show, at 197 Washington Avenue, Carlstadt. Their Annual trip to Washington, DC is currently being discussed. For more information, call 201-438-4068 or go to www.namknights.org ###

Roast Beef Dinner May 1

CANCELED: The Ladies Aid Society of the First Presbyterian Church of Carlstadt sponsored Roast Beef Dinner scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2020 in the Community Hall next to the Church on Third Street in Carlstadt from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. was canceled. ###

Beefsteak Dinner May 21

POSTPONED: On Thursday, May 21, 2020, Wallington FD Park Row Hose Co. #3, invites you to attend a Beefsteak Dinner at the Fiesta, Route 17 South, Wood-Ridge, from 6:30 to 11 p.m., to honor Mark W. Tomko for his years of dedicated service as Mayor and Fire Commissioner. \$55 donation, includes beer, wine and soda. For more information about this postponed event, contact Doug at 201-755-6906/ Patryk 973-570-3153 or email WFDCO3@Gmail.com ###

Project Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful

Volunteers needed on Sunday, June 7, 2020. The “Keep Wood-Ridge Beautiful” Committee will hold its 21st Annual Downtown Cleanup Day between the hours of 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Volunteers are once again needed to help clean our shopping districts and raise awareness of the effects of litter in our community.

Last year over 200 volunteers participated!! Both adults and children are welcome. The Bergen County Board of Health will provide cleaning utensils, gloves, brooms and bags. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Wood-Ridge Civic Center at 12:45 p.m. Pizza and other refreshments will be served after the cleanup. To sign up, call Borough Hall at 201-939-0202 ext. 109 and leave your name and how many adult or children’s T-shirts should be ordered. Do you have stuff to shred? Bring it to the Civic Center that day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (no hardcover books, magazines, newspapers, photographs or X-rays). For further information, contact Councilman Ezio Altamura at 201-531-0259. ###

HH Town-wide Garage Sale

CANCELED: A Hasbrouck Heights town-wide garage sale is scheduled for May 16 and 17, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. has been canceled at this time. Participation in this sale does not count towards the “two garage sales” per year ordinance. Sign up dates are May 4 and 6, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Administration Building. There is a \$10 fee.

Space will be made available for apartment dwellers and fund raising organizations. Participants must bring their own table.

A free map indicating all registered participants’ addresses will be distributed to the shoppers. This event is sponsored by the Hasbrouck Heights Mayor’s Celebration Committee. For more information, call the Borough Clerk at 201-288-0195. ###

Library Directory

Libraries of the BCCLS consortium know these are challenging times. In response, BCCLS Libraries are helping patrons without a Library card to register and get access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines and much more! Go to: <https://www.bccls.org/>

Carlstadt Library, 420 Hackensack Street, Carlstadt, NJ 07072. 201-438-8866, Handicap accessible. [carlstadt.bccls.org](http://carlstadt.bccls.org)

East Rutherford Memorial Library, 143 Boiling Springs Avenue, East Rutherford, NJ 07073. 201-939-1231, <http://eastutherford.bccls.org/>

Hasbrouck Heights Free Public Library, 320 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604. 201-288-0488, <http://hasbrouckheightslibrary.org>.

Little Ferry Public Library, 239 Liberty Street, NJ 07643. 201-641-3721. [littleferrybccls.org](http://littleferrybccls.org)

Lodi Memorial Library, One Memorial Drive, Lodi, NJ 07644. 973-365-4044. <http://lodi.bccls.org/>

Ridgefield Park Public Library, 107 Cedar Street, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660. 201-641-0689. <https://www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org/> Programs provided in partnership with The Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library.

Rutherford Public Library, 150 Park Avenue, Rutherford NJ. 201-939-8600. [rutherfordlibrary.org](http://rutherfordlibrary.org), [facebook.com/rutherfordpubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/rutherfordpubliclibrary) and [twitter@Rutherford\\_pl](https://twitter.com/Rutherford_pl).

Wood-Ridge Memorial Library, 231 Hackensack Street, Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075. 201-438-2455. <https://woodridge-memoriallibrary.org>

John F. Kennedy Memorial Library, 92 Hathaway Street, Wallington, 07057. 973-471-1692. [wallington.bccls.org](http://wallington.bccls.org) offers free programs and events for children, teens, and adults!

30 Hours that Changed Hasbrouck Heights The "Double Whammy" series is available online at: [www.the-gazette-newspaper.com](http://www.the-gazette-newspaper.com)

Series was written by James J. Halloran

- Part 1: December 2019, p4 -- Heights Plane Crash: Four perish
- Part 2: January 2020, p26 -- Pilot Error
- Part 3: February 2020, p20-21 -- Blaze Destroys Boro Hall
- Part 4: March 2020, p19 -- Stepping Up to the Challenge
- Part 5: April 2020, p28 -- The Journey Home

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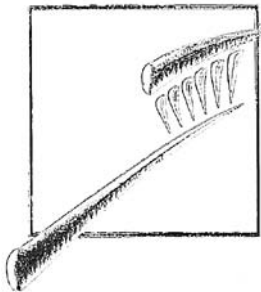
ORGANIZATIONS

Due to the Coronavirus, if you have postponed your event, advise The Gazette Newspaper and we will publish your announcement in the June Edition. Deadline is May 5 Email: [gazettenewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:gazettenewspaper@gmail.com)

To disinfect: diluting your household bleach

To make a bleach solution, mix: 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water OR 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water Follow manufacturer’s instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted. Source: [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) ###

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**Due to the Coronavirus, some activities may have been postponed or canceled.  
Check with your event contact.**

**Strawberry  
Festival  
June 26**

On Friday, June 26, 2020, 55 Kip Center, Rutherford, will hold the Annual Tricky Tray. It is not too early to start thinking about the raffle baskets. We will be happy to accept any new/used gifts. If you would like to help with this event by soliciting prizes and donations, we would be happy to hear from you. All donations can be dropped off at the office. Call 201-460-1600 first.

Parking: Everyone who drives to 55 Kip Center should display the new parking pass for 2020! Remember to be aware of the times that you are allowed to park. Be sure you are parked in the allotted spaces. You will receive tickets for violations. ###

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**W-R Lions Club  
"Blind Seals" Drive**

The annual townwide distribution, that is faithfully done by the Wood-Ridge High School National Honor Society students, had to be canceled this year due to the Coronavirus shutting down the school and suspending all activities.

This is an important fund raising event that the Club depends on to support the many sight-related programs that count on the Wood-Ridge Lions Club.

If you are able, please send in a donation to the Wood-Ridge Lions Club, P.O. Box 166, Wood-Ridge NJ 070975 Your support is greatly appreciated! ###

**Afternoon  
Tea May 3**

Saint Margaret of Corona's Parish Social Life Committee is sponsoring an Afternoon Tea, from 1 to 4 p.m., on Sunday, May 3, 2020.

\$25 gift card Tricky Tray prizes. Cost is \$15. Tickets will be sold at the door. For information, call Ellie at 201-641-0883. ###

**Wallington  
Little League  
Pasta Dinner**

On Saturday, May 30, 2020, the Wallington Little League will be holding a Family Pasta Night Dinner and Annual Tricky Tray event. All of the monies that are raised will be given back to the boys and girls, ages 4 through 12, in special baseball and softball outings, programs, and clinics.

We are asking our neighbors to donate an item or service to our organization to be raffled off during the evening of our biggest fundraising event of the year. Your company will be recognized in our program for everyone to see. Any help you can give to us would be greatly appreciated.

Gifts can be mailed to: Wallington Little League, c/o Adele Mulvaney, 2 Elizabeth Place, Wallington, NJ 07057.

If an item needs to be picked up, call Adele at 973-773-0951 or Joe at 973-632-3845. ###

**Wallington  
Fashion Show/  
Tricky Tray  
May 4**

**RESCHEDULED:** On Monday, May 4, 2020, at 6 p.m., Wallington High School Home and School Organization, will host a Fashion Show/Dinner/Tricky Tray at the Fiesta, at 255 Route 17 South, Wood-Ridge. Admission is \$55 pp. For ticket information, call TJ Calabrese at 201-893-6748, or Joe Brunacki 973-632-3845. email: wallington.hso@gmail.com ###

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**Designer  
Pocketbook  
Bingo May 1**

The Woman's Club of Rutherford invites you to join their Designer Pocketbook Bingo event on Friday, May 1, 2020. The location is The Woman's Club of Rutherford's Historic Carriage House Club House at 201 Fairview Avenue (corner of Montross Avenue), Rutherford.

Designer handbags will be awarded to prize winners. Desert and coffee will be served. They will also have a Tricky Tray and a 50/50 raffle.

Cost is \$30. A ticket entitles players to 10 games. Additional games may be purchased on site. Doors open at 6 p.m. Games are from 7-9 p.m. Tickets Advance tickets only. Send a check for \$30 made payable to The Woman's Club of Rutherford to 201 Fairview Avenue, Rutherford, NJ, 07070.

For more information, contact Sue at 201-893-6866 or Kathy at 201-933-7597. ###

**Carlstadt Mixed  
Chorus 89th  
Music Festival**

The Carlstadt Mixed Chorus will host their 89th Music Festival at the Carlstadt Turn Hall, 500 Broad Street, Carlstadt, at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 3, 2020.

The program will feature the Chorus, Guest Soloists accompanied by a Chamber Orchestra; Johanna Teubner-Prussack, Music Director. Dance music by "Bud-Linda." The kitchen and bar will be open. Donation is \$25. For reservations, call 201-387-2073 or 201-257-8601. ###

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**FOCAS Holds  
Flea Market**

FOCAS holds its Flea Market on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the American Legion, 100 Liberty Street, Little Ferry. This market features specialty items that make unique gifts, a selection of household items, jewelry, collectibles, linens, games, toys, pet supplies, cds/videos, and more. Refreshments and baked goods are available.

Flea Market merchandise donations clean, gently used or new items are gratefully accepted. (Not accepted are TVs, PC monitors, golf bags and clubs, exercise and sports equipment, clothes or magazines or any items that are broken or not working.)

They may be dropped off at the American Legion on Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. and Saturday (all day) of the Flea Market weekend.

All proceeds benefit homeless animals. For additional information call the FOCAS Help Line at 201-943-4019, email info@focasnews.org, or visit www.focasnews.org ###

**Knights 25th  
Anniversary  
Put on Hold**

In consideration of the Coronavirus situation, the St. Anthony Council 11585, Knights of Columbus will be re-scheduling their planned 25th Anniversary Dinner. Grand Knight John Milne stated that the affair will take place some time in the fall.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. It was founded by Father Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882.

The Wood-Ridge Council was organized in 1995 by the Assumption Church's pastor Rev. James Czerwinski. The names of thirty-five men from the parish are on its charter. Eighteen of them are still members of the council. Today the membership is over 100.

Past Grand Knights are Peter A. York, Jr., Richard T. Pacesa, Thomas Tomat, Edward Sullivan, Frank Materia, Russell D. Petrocelli, Peter J. Gallo Jr., Angelo Urato, Donald Callahan, Thomas Gonnella, Gary Lepore, Kenneth C. Gardella and John Milne. ###

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# Filling You In

By Jeffrey E. Mason, DMD, FAGD.

### Are we there yet?

As I awaken every morning lately, I ask that question which parents are all too familiar with, “are we there yet?”

A child may ask this shortly after a trip begins while not having the perspective of the length of their voyage.

Well, I suppose this is why I ask the question. Perhaps it is the pursuit of the perspective as to how long the COVID-19 pandemic road is. We find ourselves all living a lifestyle that would have been unthinkable just a number of weeks ago.

Fear and anxiety have taken a toll already this first week of April as we practice “social distancing” and try to determine if or when our lives will return to normal.

One considerable impact from this pandemic is the limited and difficult access to routine healthcare providers.

As a result, dentists, physicians, and other healthcare providers were asked to stop providing non-emergency clinical procedures.

Governor Murphy has issued an executive order which was carried out by the NJ State

Division of Consumer Affairs. This order in part states: “... Dentists should cancel or postpone any elective procedure or “routine” service until at least April 20, 2020, to limit exposure to and transmission of the virus and help preserve and extend the supply of personal protective equipment...”.

Therefore, I have been not able to keep my office open and available as usual and my staff has returned to their homes to care for their families as they “shelter in place.”

Patients with dental emergencies can be managed by telephone and then determine how to best resolve their chief concern. For a short time, this partial closure can be manageable.

However, the federal and state governments have extended the “social distancing” recommendations until April 30th.

We anticipate the Governor will extend the aforementioned executive order likewise.

With the understanding that you will be reading this at the end of April or the beginning of May, I anticipate that much may have changed in

regards to the limitations the pandemic has placed on all of our lives.

I am in constant consultation with the medical community and fellow colleagues in dentistry. We will continue to discuss and deliberate the manner in which we will best reopen our offices and provide the routine care.

In my column of *The Gazette Newspaper's* April issue (available online), I discussed Infection Control Procedures. Those procedures are recognized as a universal standard. As we await the post-pandemic world, I expect that the infection control procedures will be enhanced to provide the safest and most favorable conditions to render care.

We are not there yet. However, with constant optimism and confidence, I have hope that we will see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Until then, I will awaken every morning looking for the answer to my original question. So, in conclusion of this article, I express my deepest concern for the safety, wellbeing, health and happiness of all those in our community.

*Dr. Jeffrey Mason is a cosmetic and general dentist at 232 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ. 201-288-4447, www.DrJeffreyMason.com*

## Hackensack Riverkeeper Donates Personal Protective Equipment to BC COVID-19 Effort

Responding to an appeal by County Executive James Tedesco for donations of personal protective equipment (PPE), Hackensack Riverkeeper today delivered fifteen boxes (1,500) of exam gloves to help support frontline healthcare workers in the battle against COVID-19.

The gloves were purchased late last year and earmarked for the organization's 2020 River Cleanup program, but with their programming on hold due to the pandemic, the group decided to donate them to the people who need them the most – local healthcare professionals and first responders.

On March 26, Bergen County began accepting accepting donations of PPE, including surgical masks, medical face shields/goggles, protective medical gowns and

exam gloves at the County Annex Building, 220 East Ridge-wood Avenue in Paramus, NJ.

The drop-off site, located behind Bergen New Bridge Medical Center, is open and fully staffed Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. through 2 p.m.

The location is equipped to handle donations small or large, including those on shipping pallets.

Hackensack Riverkeeper strongly urges all its colleagues in conservation that conduct cleanups, environmental monitoring programs or any activity that involves using PPE, to do the right thing, put those activities on hold, and donate all they can to aid the common fight against COVID-19.

Those seeking additional information about Bergen

County donations should send an email to: [PPEdonations@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:PPEdonations@co.bergen.nj.us)

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**Due to the Coronavirus, some activities may have been postponed or canceled. Check with your event contact.**

**Attention  
W-R Seniors**

*Wood-Ridge Contemporary Club – From President Providence Sarlo and the Officers:*

We want all our Senior Citizens to know that we are thinking about you and your families during this crisis. We hope you stay safe and well.

Our meetings have been cancelled until it is safe to meet again. We are Wood-Ridge strong and will get through this. We have all been through difficult times in our lives and will survive this too because we are a tough group of Senior Citizens. Stay well and look forward to seeing everyone soon! ###

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**HH Leisure Club Update**

Coronavirus fears have forced groups to cancel their meetings, trips, special events etc. Leisure Club of Hasbrouck Heights President June Raymond has announced that after consulting with her board the **Club has canceled the Installation Luncheon** and are rescheduling trips that were planned for this spring.

The election of officers will take place at the next meeting of the Leisure Club which may take place in either May, June or September. At the March meeting, the Nominating Committee announced that all present officers have indicated that they will seek reelection. Therefore, at the next meeting other nominations for a position will be accepted up until the start of voting for that position.

If there are no other nominations, the slate presented by the Nominating Committee will be elected by a voice vote. If there are other candidates for a specific position, a ballot vote will be taken for that position only.

The present officers seeking reelection are: President June Raymond, Co-Vice Presidents Rosemarie Sees and Tara Sassaman, Secretary Marilyn deRussy, Treasurer Frances Visco, and Assistant Treasurer Dorothy McCarthy. *Story by Peter Gallo Jr. ###*

**Moonachie Seniors**

• **April 30**, the Club is going to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see "Sherlock Holmes Returns." An all new immersive musical mystery comedy. There are seven lunch selections to choose from, also the famous unlimited dessert buffet. Cost is \$69 pp. The bus leaves at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. The Club is behind the Moonachie First Aid Squad. For information, call 201-641-6472. ###

**May is Older Americans Month**

**Lodi Senior Club News**

The Lodi Senior Citizens Club begins its 52nd year. The Club meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

Every Thursday is "Fun Day." They have a pool table, and shuffleboard. Do what your doctor says, "Keep Moving" with exercise or Bingo, card playing or pool and enjoy a day with friends.

Plus, they usually have entertainment at most of the meetings. For information, call 973-472-6994 and leave a message. ###

- 2020 Events**
- May 12, Mother's Day, pizza at the Club.
  - May 26, Entertainment by Nick Dee.
  - June 9, Father's Day, pizza in the Club.
  - June 23, Point Pleasant, lunch at The Shrimp Box and boat ride.
  - July 14, Ice Cream Party in the Club at 1 p.m.
  - August 14, Atlantic City lunch and Resorts Casino.
  - August 25, Hot dogs in the Club at 1 p.m.
  - September 22, Lunch in the Club at 1 p.m. by Santangelo's.
  - October 7, Black Forest Inn (Octoberfest) 12 p.m. sharp.
  - December 4, Christmas Party at the Venetian.
  - December 8, Pizza in the Club at 1 p.m. ###

**AARP Chapter #2015 Events**

The AARP Chapter #2015 of Lodi meets at noon the third Tuesday of every month at the Lodi Senior Center, 22 Walnut Place. Each meeting has either a speaker or entertainment as well as light refreshments. New members welcome. Dues are \$10 for the year. For information, contact Marie at 201-566-4431. ###

**Carlstadt Seniors/ Vic's Hoofers**

The Carlstadt Senior Friendship Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11 to 3 p.m., at the Civic Center, at 423-433 4th Street, Carlstadt. Refreshments are served. It is a great place to meet your neighbors and other Borough seniors. Bingo and Jackpot Bingo is played after every meeting. There is no cost to the members. There are free shows at Bergen PAC or NJ PAC and casino trips. Anniversary, Christmas Luncheons and dinners are delicious and fun filled events. All Carlstadt Seniors 60+ are invited to join the Friendship Club. Dues are \$10.

**The Vic's Hoofers**, a ladies social group, meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Carlstadt Civic Center on 4th Street at 7 p.m. Women from surrounding towns are invited to join. Dues are \$15 per year. So put down those electronic gadgets and join us for some good old fashion fun and laughter. Refreshments are served at each meeting. The fun activity planned for the month of April is a dice game. ###

**ER Seniors**

East Rutherford Senior Meetings are held at 1 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at the Senior Civic Center, 37 Vreeland Avenue. Refreshments are served. Bingo follows each meeting. New members are always welcome.

Free Blood-Pressure Screenings take place on the 4th Tuesday of the month beginning at 11:30 a.m. For additional information, contact Josephine at 201-460-1989.

• **Caesar's Casino**, every 3rd Monday of the month. Cost is \$35 with \$30 in slot play. Bus leaves from the CVS parking lot on Paterson Avenue at 9:30 a.m. All payments must be made in advance.

- 2020 Upcoming Trips**
- **May 27** - Play - "I Left My Dignity in My Other Purse," Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, Hampton, NJ.
  - **June 10** - Gershwin's - "An American in Paris" - Surfflight Theater - Beach Haven, NJ
  - **July 15** - Summer Picnic - Krucker's - Pomona, NY.
  - **August 19** - Entertainment - Black Forest Inn, Stanhope, NJ. ###



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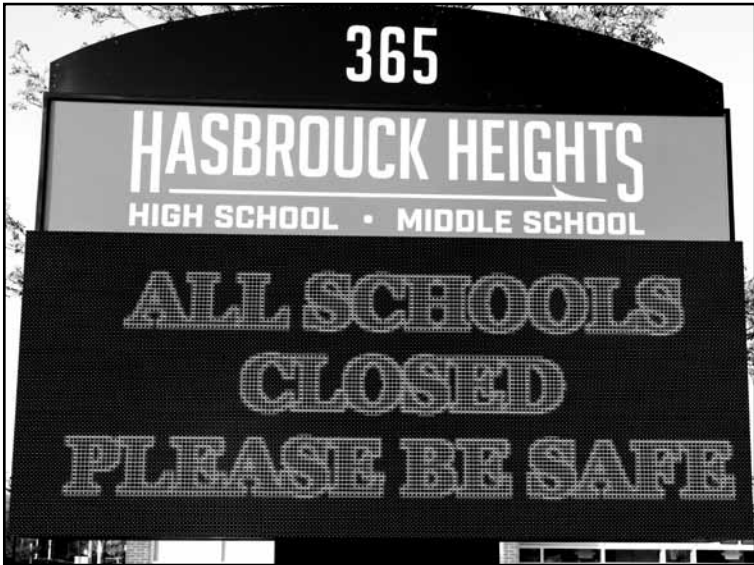
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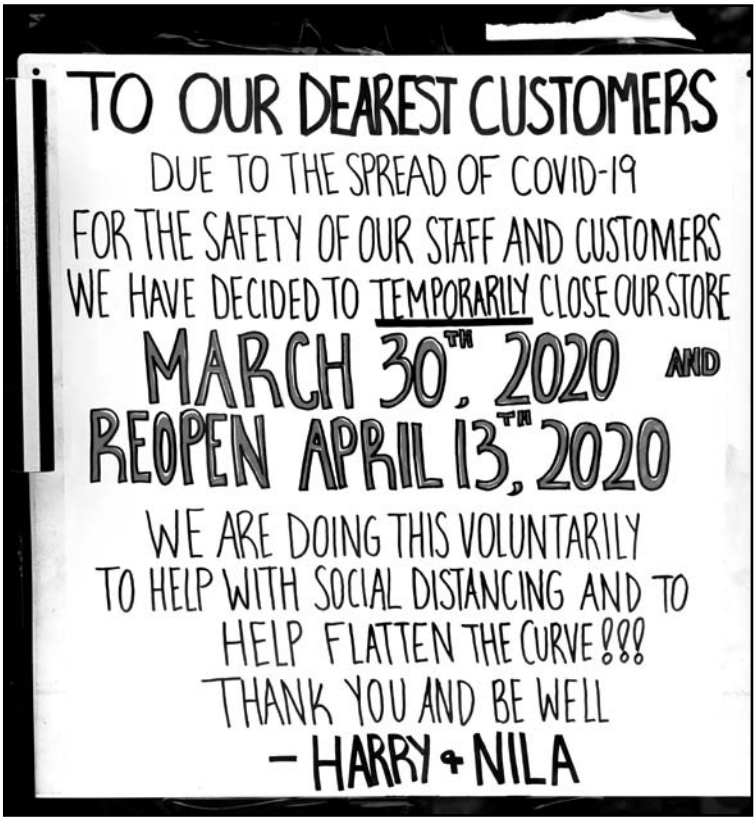
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Area scenes during the crisis. Municipal offices closed. Parks closed. Businesses closed or sharply curtailed. On the bright side, there were limited decorations and rabbits did pop up. And fire departments came to the rescue.



Above & below: Samuel Nelkin County Park - Wallington, NJ. Photos by Patti Bonczkowski. ###



Walmart - Garfield, NJ -- You can longer go through the grocery entrance. You have to line up around the building, and go through Outdoor Living. Provided by Patti Bonczkowski. ###



To the disappointment of many children, COVID-19 canceled planned Easter Egg Hunts. Many of our area fire departments rose to the challenge and took "The Easter Bunny" around their town to the delight of "everyone!" Above: Wallington's Easter Bunny Parade. Provided by Patti Bonczkowski. ###



# Meadowlands YMCA Distributed Emergency Food Boxes

## Food Distribution every Tuesday until further notice

March 31, 2020 – The **Meadowlands YMCA**, in partnership with Table to Table, distributed over 600 boxes of Hello Fresh meal kits along with extra fresh produce and frozen pork to assist those impacted by the Coronavirus crisis.

Many of our neighbors in need are already feeling the economic impact of COVID-19, while others find themselves struggling perhaps for the first time.

Small businesses have been ordered to shut down and workers are being laid off resulting in food insecurity; children are left without access to school meals, and at-risk seniors are facing food shortages.

Drive-Thru grab-and-go Emergency Food Boxes were distributed Tuesday, March 31, 2020 and Friday, March 27, 2020. Friday's event was in partnership with the Community Food Bank of NJ (CFBNJ) and close to 13,500 meals were given out in a little over an hour.

"We knew there was a tremendous need for food, but when the meals were distributed in 75 minutes, we immediately arranged for the second event today," said David Kisselback, President and CEO of the Meadowlands YMCA.

"We are so grateful to our partners, CFBNJ and Table to Table for responding so quickly to the needs of the Meadowlands community. Having a full-service facility in East Rutherford allows us the opportunity to serve the region in a way that

was never possible as a "Y Without Walls."

YMCA is, and continues to be, an advocate and resource in the region. The two branches, the main facility located at 390 Murray Hill Parkway in East Rutherford and the Meadowlands Family Success Center in Little Ferry, have quickly responded to the urgent needs of the community as they arise.

- FREE all-day childcare 7 days a week for healthcare workers, first responders, and other essential personnel including supply chain employees.
- Food Distribution on March 27 (336 boxes making 13,440 meals) and March 31 (600 boxes making approximately 6,000 meals).
- Blood Drive on March 20th and scheduled monthly drives for April 28th and May 27th because of the urgent need for blood.
- Made computers available to students in Little Ferry, Moonachie and other underserved areas who do not have access to devices at home,
- Installed internet and gave WiFi access for in-need community in Moonachie so that the families stay connected to school and can participate in distance learning,
- Created Y Online, an online resource portal to provide support to the community at-large.

The Meadowlands YMCA has relied heavily on support

from local businesses. The NY Football Giants funded our first round of FREE childcare for healthcare workers, and our vendors and local merchants have donated much-needed supplies.

Admiral Air Tech's Al Bucci has donated his entire crew to help pack and distribute food boxes at both events.

There is still an urgent need for funding for FREE all-day childcare 7 days a week for healthcare workers, first responders, and other essential personnel including supply chain employees.

For more information, contact Teri Festa, Chief Mission Officer, at [TFesta@meadowlandsymca.org](mailto:TFesta@meadowlandsymca.org) or 201-955-5300 x257 ###

*About the Meadowlands YMCA*

Established in 1920, the Meadowlands Area YMCA is celebrating its hundredth anniversary. It is located in East Rutherford, New Jersey, in a service area of 132,000 households serving more than 350,000 guests per year.

In 2019 alone, the Y provided more than \$650,000 in financial assistance to over 3,500 local families in Bergen County. The central facility and its 30+ site locations host programs that are committed to nurturing the potential of children, promoting healthy living, and fostering a sense of social responsibility. By offering a wide variety of wellness and enrichment programs designed

to benefit infants to seniors, the Y is helping the community to build a better mind, body and spirit for people of all ages and circumstances.

On May 19, 2017, the new 83,200 sq. ft. Meadowlands YMCA opened at 390 Murray Hill Parkway, East Rutherford, NJ. The facility is the former training center of the NBA's New Jersey Nets and is this Association's first centrally

located building.

*About Table to Table*

The Meadowlands YMCA is proud to work with Table to Table, a community-based food rescue program that collects prepared and perishable food that would otherwise be wasted. Table to Table delivers the food to organizations serving the hungry in the Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Passaic Counties of New Jersey.



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# Nature's Bright Moments





# During Our Dark Hours





## Above-normal 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season Predicted

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30, though storms sometimes form outside those dates.

It is predicted that the 2020 hurricane activity will be about 140% of the average season, with 16 named tropical storms formed, eight of which will become hurricanes.

A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when its wind speed reaches 74 mph.

Of the eight predicted hurricanes, four are expected to spin into major hurricanes – Category 3 to 5 – with sustained wind speeds of 111 to 129 mph or greater.

The chance that at least one major hurricane will make landfall in 2020.

Reasons for the active season include unusually warm seawater in the Atlantic Ocean and also the lack of an El Niño.

One of the major determining factors in hurricane forecasting is whether we are in an El Niño or La Niña climate pattern.

El Niño is a natural warming of tropical Pacific Ocean water, which tends to suppress the development of Atlantic hurricanes. Its opposite, La Niña, marked by cooler ocean water, tends to increase hurricanes in the Atlantic.

The most significant factor in determining how active a hurricane season may turn out to be is how warm the ocean is.

Currently, sea surface temperatures are above normal across most of the tropical development regions in the Atlantic. This is especially true in the subtropical Atlantic close to the U.S. where the Gulf of Mexico, as a whole, is 5 degrees Fahrenheit above normal, with some pockets inflated by a striking 8 degrees.

Warmer sea surface temperatures provide more energy for developing systems. This does not always cause more storms to form, but that "higher-octane fuel" does power stronger systems.

Along with these forecasts,

research also shows tropical systems are intensifying more rapidly and likely slowing down their forward motion due — at least partially — to a warmer globe. This is leading to more damage due to stronger winds, heavier rain and flooding.

That fact is significant because an increase in storm intensity does not just cause a modest increase in damage, the change can be exponential. For instance, a storm with winds of 150 mph can produce 250 times the damage compared to a storm with winds of 75 mph. So, if water temperatures remain far above normal for the season it is logical to assume, a landfalling storm will likely cause more damage.

### Full Flower Moon

The May full moon will appear on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 6:45 a.m. It is called the "Full Flower Moon."

According to The Farmer's Almanac, in most areas, flowers are abundant everywhere during this time. Thus, the name of this moon.

Other names include the "Full Corn Planting Moon" or the "Milk Moon."

The Native American Indians of the northern and eastern United States kept track of the seasons by giving a name to each recurring full moon. European settlers followed the custom.

### Best Days in May 2020

Below are the best days for activities, based on the Moon's sign and phase in May.

- For Gardening:  
Planting above ground crops: 25, 26  
Planting below ground crops: 15, 16
- For Fishing: 1–7, 22–31

### Full Moon Folklore

- Clothes washed for the first time in the Full Moon will not last long.
- The Full Moon is an ideal time to accept a proposal of marriage. ###

## Mowing That Great Lawn of Yours

• No other power equipment is as intimately associated with and essential to landscaping as is the lawn mower.

You need to have one that will consistently get the job done without any hassles throughout the lawn mowing season. And you should also know how to use one to your best advantage.

Mowing the lawn all summer can be tiring enough, right? When your unit is stubborn about starting up, that can be a sign that it needs a tuneup.

Have your mower tuneup each year. Call **Rob's Automotive** in Lodi at 973-471-7348 or **Heights Boulevard Service** in Hasbrouck Heights at 201-288-5959. Or you could just buy a new lawn mower.

• "What's there to know about lawn mowing? You just push the lawn mower, and it

cuts the grass, right?

At the most basic level, Yes. If lawn mowing is merely a mindless chore and you don't care much about the health of your grass, then you needn't know any more about it.

However, if you do care about the health of your grass, there's a bit more to lawn mowing than just keeping your grass short enough to prevent the neighborhood from thinking you abandoned your house.

• The right time and wrong times to mow the lawn

You should not mow the lawn when the grass is wet (*under which conditions disease can be introduced, plus you incur the risk of slipping and getting injured*), for example.

So the period just after a rainstorm would be a wrong time to mow, as would a time (*early morning*) when the grass

is still covered with dew. During the late morning (*after the dew has evaporated*) of a dry day, however, is an example of a right time to mow the lawn.

But deciding on when to cut the grass goes beyond waiting for dry conditions.

Mowing when the sun is pounding down on your grass, as it would during the afternoon of a hot summer's day, puts a lot of stress on the lawn. Cutting grass in the evening, instead, would put less stress on it. On the other hand, you don't want to cut the grass too late in the day, after darkness starts to fall, as this is a period of reduced visibility (*which increases the chances for a mowing mishap*). All else being equal, the early evening of a dry day may be the right time for mowing lawns. *the spruce.com ###*



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## What Is Shavuot (Shavuos)? And How Is Shavuot Celebrated?

The word Shavuot (*or Shavuos*) means “weeks.” It celebrates the completion of the seven-week Omer counting period between Passover and Shavuot. It begins on the sunset, Thursday, May 28 and ends the evening of Saturday, May 30, 2020.

The Torah was given by God to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai on Shavuot more than 3,300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we renew our acceptance of God’s gift, and God “re-gives” the Torah.

The giving of the Torah was a far-reaching spiritual event—one that touched the essence of the Jewish soul for all times. Sages have compared it to a wedding between God and the Jewish people. Shavuot also means “oaths,” for on this day God swore eternal devotion to us, and we in turn pledged everlasting loyalty to Him.

In ancient times, two wheat loaves would be offered in the Holy Temple on Shavuot. It was also at this time that people would begin to bring bikkurim, their first and choicest fruits, to thank God for Israel’s bounty.

### How Is Shavuot Celebrated?

- Women and girls light holiday candles to usher in the holiday, on both the first and second evenings of the holidays. It is customary to stay up all night learning Torah on the first night of Shavuot.

- All men, women and children should go to the synagogue on the first day of Shavuot to hear the reading of the Ten Commandments.

- As on other holidays, special meals are eaten, and no “work” may be performed.

- It is customary to eat dairy foods on Shavuot. Menus range from traditional cheese blintzes to quiches, casseroles and more.

- On the second day of Shavuot, the Yizkor memorial service is recited.

- Some communities read the Book of Ruth publicly, as King David—whose passing occurred on this day—was a descendant of Ruth the Moabite.

- Some have the custom to decorate their homes (*and synagogues*) with flowers and sweet-smelling plants in advance of Shavuot. *Source: chabad.org*



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# Mosquito Season is Abuzz

Standing water means you could be raising mosquitoes!

Many generations of mosquitoes can breed right in your own yard. All mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle. Mosquitoes also are not known to travel long distances from their water source.

Some mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water where they hatch in just a day or two. They can do this in water that has been standing for as little as four days.

Other mosquitoes may lay their eggs in old tires, tin cans, or other water-holding containers including bird baths, wading and small swimming pools, ornamental ponds, clogged gutters, flowerpots or the drip plates beneath them, cups, glasses, drink cans, etc.

The eggs may remain un-

hatched for weeks or even months until they are covered with water!

**Yard and home checklist:**

- Get rid of old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles, or any water holding containers
- Fill in or drain any low places (*puddles, ruts*) in yard
- Keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly
- Cover trash containers to keep out rain water
- Repair leaky pipes and outdoor faucets
- Empty plastic wading pool at least once a week and store it indoors when not in use
- Make sure your backyard pool is properly cared for while on vacation
- Fill in tree rot holes and

hollow stumps that hold water with sand or concrete

- Change the water in bird baths and plant pots or drip trays at least once a week
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there
- Keep gutters clean and free of debris and leaves.
- Store boats covered or upside down.

**Protect yourself from mosquito bites**

- If possible, avoid being outdoors in the early morning or in the evening.
- If you must go out, wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks.
- The EPA and CDC advise the use of a mosquito repellant, following the instructions on

- the label.
- Check with your pediatrician before using a repellant on children.
  - Keep windows and doors closed or covered with screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering the house.
  - Repair screens on windows, doors, porches, and patios.
  - Some mosquito control methods do not do a very good job. For example, bug zappers do not work well to control biting mosquitos since they do not emit carbon dioxide.
  - Various birds and bats will eat mosquitos, but there is little evidence that this cuts down on the number of mosquitos around homes.
  - Electronic mosquito repelling devices don't stop mosquitos biting people either. ###



**Copy for the June Issue is due May 5th.**

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# Caution on Fertilizer Pesticide Combinations

Many homeowners and lawn care companies routinely combine fertilizer and pesticides in a series of applications throughout the year.

These multi-step programs are promoted as the sure and easy path to the perfect lawn. The pressure to have a perfect lawn, however, has clouded a number of issues and literally mixed ingredients that should be kept separate. Areas of caution include:

- Routine insecticide applications: Most insects found on a lawn are beneficial, and insecticides can harm beneficial insects, as well as birds, pets and people.
- Research indicates that only about one lawn in 200 will need an insecticide application in a given year. Even on lawns where harmful insects exist, natural controls or better lawn care will reduce the threat.
- Routine herbicide applications: Weeds are not the cause of an unhealthy lawn, they are the result. The best

defense against weeds is a thick healthy lawn that comes from proper watering, fertilizing and mowing. Routine herbicide applications are unnecessary and their effects can be misleading.

For example, products are widely used to kill dandelions in spring, when the flowers are so noticeable. The curling weeds seem to indicate that the herbicide has been effective, but in fact the herbicide may kill only the top of the weed, not the root.

- Unnecessary nutrient applications: Most commercial fertilizers contain phosphorus, a major water pollutant. Yet many soils already contain enough phosphorus. Low phosphorus or phosphorus-free fertilizers can provide nutrients while avoiding the threat to water quality

In short, applying unneeded pesticides and nutrients in a generic, multi-step fertilizer program can be expensive for the homeowner and harmful to the environment. ###

## Real Estate Insight

By Mary Ellen Courtney



### A Very Serious Strain on Us All

It's Springtime! The hottest time of year for home sales!!

Not this spring, unfortunately. The coronavirus plague is raging across New Jersey and we here in the NYC 'burbs' are too uncomfortably close to ground zero, currently.

As a result, many people have lost jobs or are furloughed; others are isolated with their kids to limit the possibility of infection. The idea of selling or buying a home would seem to be far from anybody's mind, but yet – despite the fear and restrictions – the real estate business is still ongoing.

Earlier this week, the governor clarified that agents can still operate and show houses to prospective buyers on a one-on-one basis or to immediate families. Understandably, there is still a prohibition on open houses.

all showings so clients needn't touch anything.

The truth is, though, that there haven't been many showing requests since the governor's stay-at-home order...

But what, you may be wondering, do we do with those contracts already made and in progress? Closings are still happening, but real estate professionals have to be a little more creative because of coronavirus.

"We are conducting our closings with extreme caution and awareness of the current situation," says Joe DiMarco, owner of Empire Title Agency which shares office space with us and does the majority of our closing work. "We have sent all of our clients an extensive overview of how closings are being conducted right now. For example, everyone brings their own pens, masks, and gloves, and we insist on only essential people be in attendance. We are lucky enough to have a conference room with a table that is over twelve feet long, which enables us to continue the practice of 'social distancing' as much as you can in a closing situation." Joe said. "Right now, it's all about thinking on your feet, staying super vigilant, showing the clients added support and superior service."

Other closings, however, are being delayed because some municipalities are closed to the general public. Waiting for a certificate of occupancy or smoke alarm certificate takes

more time, as you now have to apply for them online.

Likewise, home inspections. The inspection is conducted alone, without the usual informative, running commentary that buyers are eager to see and hear first-hand. The inspector documents any issues or concerns with photos or video and forwards to the buyers with his report. As elsewhere, the human element is subtracted from the process.

Strangest of all (*especially for us old timers*), is showing a home without physically being inside the house. Video is the way to go, these days. "I sold a home on Face Time last year, so I have experience in this department and can sell on Face Time going forward," said Tom Corrente, a top producer in our office. "There are buyers and sellers who absolutely must be involved in the market. Online searches and virtual tours are critical to them. And to us, as well, I have to say."

It's impossible for any of us to predict what will happen over the next few weeks and months, but, personally, I think we can anticipate a serious uptick in home sales when we finally get an all-clear.

The 'Spring Market' will likely be pushed into the summer or fall, depending on the length of time it takes to get back to normal. And with the stock market's decline, real estate is surely going to be seen as a safer investment bet. So, who knows – unlike 2008, real estate might this time save the economy...

Mary Ellen Courtney is owner of Real Living Gateway Realtors, 201-288-0004. [www.GatewayToHomes.com](http://www.GatewayToHomes.com) ###

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## Local Company Donates Masks to Seniors

In early April, 2020, Gov. Phil Murphy announced that he was mandating that all customers and employees alike must wear masks or other face coverings at all retail businesses open during the Coronavirus pandemic. This prompted a Hasbrouck Heights company, Belle Threads, to get in touch with Councilman Chris Hillman of their willingness to help the local seniors.

Councilman Hillman then contacted June Raymond, President of the Leisure Club, who then sent out e-mails to all members of the Leisure Club who had provided this information to the Club. She notified them that Belle Threads, a company in town, was willing to make face masks free to the senior citizens. All the members had to do was to e-mail June back with the number needed only for people who

were living in their homes. She also asked the members to provide her with the names of other senior citizens who did not have an e-mail and would need a face mask. Once the face masks have been made, they will be delivered to the senior citizens by Councilman Hillman and Adam Mucci.

Belle Threads is a fashion brand which offers original, custom-made dresses for girls from newborn to 12 years and maternity wear for women. All are made to order. Belle Threads opened its Hasbrouck Heights store in January, 2019 and is located at 174 Kipp Avenue. The showroom is open Wednesday through Friday, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Appointments can be made via [HELLO@BELLETHREADS.COM](mailto:HELLO@BELLETHREADS.COM) Story by Peter Gallo Jr. ###



Artful Thinking

By Artie Maglionico • Lodi Historian

“Those brave souls what did they feel? What valor did they know? Frightened! Yet they walked the path Where heroes go.”

The above is an excerpt from a poem I wrote some years ago called "Glory." It was a fitting tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces who were sent to distant shores and who fought gallantly in the darkness of battle to protect the American way of life.

This month’s column is dedicated to those “brave souls” who answered the call to duty and especially to those who made the supreme sacrifice. Among them Marine Corporal Michael Ettz, Vietnam 1967.

Over the years I have interviewed perhaps 40 or so Veterans from the town of Lodi who left home to defend our country. In looking back I suddenly realized that I overlooked (*not intentionally*) the military service of my close relatives.

My Uncle Armando “Pete” Maglionico served in WWII with the 2nd Infantry Division. He saw action at the Battle of the Bulge. His Division entered Germany in October of '44 and went on to attack and seize the Roer River Dams.

My uncle's division fought their way to Czechoslovakia and overtook the city of Pilsen on VE-Day. My Uncle Mike Maglionico was a Corporal in the Army and saw action in Guam, South Pacific, where he served in various operations including Radar operator and search light crewman.

My Uncle Phil Maglionico served in the Army and took an active part in the invasion of North Africa fighting his way across Italy.

My Father, Vito Maglionico, served on the home front at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Among the war ships he helped build was the ill-fated light cruiser USS Juneau upon which the five Sullivan brothers met their demise. The war ship was sunk in the South Pacific on November 13, 1942.

My Uncle, Andrew Pesenti, served as a Gunner Instructor in the Army Air Corps. He saw action in Guam, South Pacific.

Among those Lodi residents who served overseas was Peter L. Manzo. During the height of WWII, Manzo marched with the 85th Custer Division as a Cannoneer-Light Artillery 844. Peter saw action across Italy including Rome-Arno, North Apennines and the Po Valley.

Michael De Marco saw

action in Okinawa, Japan. He was a Sergeant in the Army. Donald Stein of Lodi, served with the Army in Korea while the Army’s Dan Galdo saw action in Vietnam in 1965.

The following is a brief biography of WWII Veteran, the late James Steccato, of Lodi. I had the honor of chatting with him at the Lodi Library in May of 2000. James was among the many WWII Veterans who gave me 1st hand accounts of what it was like to face death during the horrors of battle. Their stories all ended the same way. “The real heroes never came home.”

On Christmas Eve, 1944 in Luxembourg Germany, Lodi’s James Steccato almost lost his life when Nazi war planes descended upon his platoon in what was a surprise bombing raid. James leaped from his 40mm anti-aircraft gun just as the shell creased the air above his head. “If you hear the shell coming you have a chance,” said James during our talk back in May of 2000. “It’s the one you don’t hear that gets you.”

James entered the Army at age 18. After basic training he was assigned to the 456th AAA Weapons Battalion. Together with Batteries A, B and C. James was sailing over to Europe in what was one of the biggest convoys of 1943. From the English Channel the 456th made its way into Normandy, France and were soon fighting their way out of the hedge rows of Saint Lo where they were experiencing a heavy ground and air attack.

Finally after days of being under siege, the German onslaught was put to rout by B-17s, B-24s and English Spit Fires. After the close call at Saint Lo, James’ battalion marched throughout France guarding General Patton’s 3rd Army. "We spent most of that August at the Seine River putting up pontoon bridges,” said James. “That was before the liberation of Paris.” During that time James was assigned to a trailer pulled 50 caliber quadruple mounted air cooled machine gun. Each container held over 500 rounds of ammunition. James’ 3rd Army anti-aircraft battery held the record for shooting down the most enemy planes...a total of 394.

More than 271 German planes were shot down in early August as the Luftwaffe attempted to stem a breakthrough in France's Cherbourg peninsula. The 3rd Army was later commanded by General Patton

as well as the 1st Army’s General Omar Bradley.

By the end of WWII James fought in no less than five major battles: The Battle of the Bulge, Normandy, The Seine River, Northern France and central Europe. James Steccato sailed back to his home town of Lodi on a troop ship named America. He was honorably discharged from military service on October 28, 1945.

I walked across a battered city. Smoldering remnants of the past. Wearisome I stepped cautiously Toward the cannons deadly blast.

To those who fell and stayed behind In that Elysian Field Remind me dark and secretly Of when my fate was sealed.

From my poem Elysian Field.

Well folks here’s wishing you a happy and at the same time a solemn Memorial Day. May God Bless all of our Veterans as we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

To those who are currently serving in the Armed Forces, especially those who are in harm’s way, we at home say thank you, may God protect you, and come home soon. ###

Rutherford Veterans Memorial Day Parade May 25

The theme for this year is: *"Veterans put themselves in harm's way for all of us."*

This year's Grand Marshal will be WWII Army Veteran William (Bill) Galloway. Mr. Galloway is also a past Commander of American Legion Post 453 in Rutherford, this year's host Post.

On May 25, 2020, there will be a wreath tossing at the Union Avenue Bridge at 8 a.m. for our Soldiers, Marines, and Airmen lost at sea. At 8:30 a.m., there will be a Taps salute to our deceased Veterans at the flagpole in Sunset Park (*Raymond and Union Avenues*). The parade will step off at 9 a.m. from Sunset Park, travel up Union Avenue and end in front of Borough Hall on Park Avenue.

God Bless our Veterans and God Bless America! *Provided by Charles Gunn, Commander Post 453. ###*

*Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed.-- General Dwight D. Eisenhower*

Memorial Day 2020 Services

**Depending upon current crisis. If okay, the public is encouraged to participate in these patriotic events. Call your Borough Clerk.**

Carlstadt

On May 25, 2020, starting at 9 a.m., at the American Legion, Veterans will march along 3rd Street and end at Berrylawn Cemetery. Wreaths will be placed at Borough Hall and at Memorial Park on Hackensack Street.

Hasbrouck Heights

On hold at press time: The Annual Memorial Day Parade is scheduled to start at 10 a.m., on May 25, 2020, at Williams Avenue, march along Terrace Avenue and conclude at Memorial Park at Passaic Avenue for a Veterans Service.

A Service at the Firemen's Memorial at The Circle follows.

This annual event is co-sponsored by the James B. Scarr Post 106 American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4591. Refreshments at the VFW Post Hall follow.

Lodi

The annual parade is under discussion at this time.

Little Ferry

On Saturday, May 23, 2020 at 9 a.m., there will be a placing of the wreath in the Hackensack River at Tracey's Nine Mile House.

At 10 a.m., both the VFW and American Legion will have ceremonies at their respective posts.

On Saturday, May 23, 2020, at 11 a.m., a combined community ceremony will be

held at Washington and Memorial Schools, hosted by the American Legion. Refreshments follow.

Moonachie

On Sunday, May 17, 2020, at 7 p.m., a Community Memorial Veterans Service will be held at The First Presbyterian Church of Moonachie. All Veterans and emergency services personnel are most welcomed.

On Saturday, May 23, 2020, Municipal Memorial Day services will be held at the Municipal Building at 10:30 a.m. Rain or shine.

Rutherford

On Monday, May 25, 2020, there will be a Memorial Service at 8:30 a.m. at the Union Memorial Bridge followed by "Taps" Salute at Sunset Park.

A Parade will start at 9 a.m. at Union and Jackson to Borough Hall where a Service will take place.

Wood-Ridge

The Fire Department will hold their Memorial Services on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at 7 p.m., at Fire Headquarters.

The traditional Mass at Assumption Church is under consideration at this time. ###

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# About Mother's Day

The modern holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. St. Andrew's Methodist Church now holds the International Mother's Day Shrine.

Her campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died.

Ann Jarvis had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War, and created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues.

Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother by continuing the work she started and to set aside a day to honor all mothers, because she believed that they were "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world."

In 1908, the US Congress rejected a proposal to make Mother's Day an official holiday, joking that they would have to proclaim also a "Mother-in-law's Day."

However, owing to the efforts of Anna Jarvis, by 1911 all US states observed the holiday, with some of them officially recognizing Mother's Day as a local holiday, the first being

West Virginia, Jarvis' home state, in 1910.

In 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Although Jarvis was successful in founding Mother's Day, she became resentful of the commercialization of the holiday. By the early 1920s, Hallmark Cards and other companies had started selling Mother's Day cards.

Jarvis believed that the companies had misinterpreted and exploited the idea of Mother's Day, and that the emphasis of the holiday was on sentiment, not profit.

As a result, she organized boycotts of Mother's Day, and threatened to issue lawsuits against the companies involved.

Jarvis argued that people should appreciate and honor their mothers through handwritten letters expressing their love and gratitude, instead of buying gifts and pre-made cards.

Jarvis protested at a candy makers' convention in Philadelphia in 1923, and at a meeting of American War Mothers in 1925.

By this time, carnations had become associated with Mother's Day, and the selling of carnations by the American War Mothers to raise money angered Jarvis, who was arrested for disturbing the peace.

Mother's Day is celebrated in more than 46 countries throughout the world. On this day, many people pray in Churches in honor of mothers, while some give them presents on this day to express their love. Some may have dinner at home with the family.

One of the most popular ways people celebrate Mother's Day is by giving their mother a card and bouquet of flowers. As it is a holiday, some people prefer to go out for a picnic to celebrate this festival. In schools, kids dedicate poems to their mothers and also perform various roles on this day.

Source: Wikipedia.org

# American Legion Now Open to All Honorably Discharged Vets

March 1, 2020 - With President Trump's signature on the LEGION Act, the ongoing declared period of war was extended back to December 7, 1941, making all honorably discharged Veterans eligible for membership in The American Legion.

The Congressionally approved act is a way to honor thousands of Veterans who were killed or wounded on duty during periods not previously considered a time of war.

The LEGION Act – Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act - redefines The American Legion's membership eligibility dates.

The eligibility now spans from December 7, 1941, until a time when the U.S. is no longer at war, as determined by Congress. Veterans wanting to join should contact their local post or call 609-695-5418 or email john@njamericanlegion.org ###

Spring Cleaning Tips

- Give your cleaning supplies an overhaul. Tossing the toxins is the first step to creating a cleaner, healthier, and safer home According to the American Lung Association, it's particularly important to avoid air fresheners and choose products that do not contain (or have reduced amounts of) VOCs, fragrances, irritants, and flammable ingredients. O
- If your microwave has stains and residue buildup, lemons can help give this workhorse kitchen appliance a thorough cleaning. In a bowl, combine one cup of water, one cup of vinegar, and two tablespoons of lemon juice. Place the bowl in the center of an empty microwave and set on high for two minutes. Wipe down with a damp cloth. O

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# Scholarships

## Lodi Oldtimers Little League 2020 Scholarship Programs

The Lodi Oldtimers have announced the opening of their annual Scholarship Program for 2020 and the annual Pam Panagiotou Scholarship Award Program. The scholarships are open to high school seniors who have participated in any of the Lodi Little League baseball or softball programs for a minimum of 3 years.

- Three five-hundred dollar scholarships will be awarded. The Oldtimers will award one scholarship to a male and one to a female.

The annual Pam Panagiotou Scholarship Award Program will award one scholarship and is open to both males and females. All applicants must meet the criteria set by the Lodi Oldtimers Little League:

1. Applicants must complete a scholarship application in full.
2. A 500 or more word essay must accompany the appli-

cation stating what their Little League experience has meant to them and what their most memorable event was.

3. The most recent high school transcript, including the fall of 2019 semester must be attached.

4. Applicants must supply a copy of their college acceptance letter.

5. Proof of residency must be included.

Applications can be mailed to: Lodi Oldtimers Little League, PO Box 201, Lodi, NJ 07644-0201 or dropped off at the League Office.

The deadline for applying is April 10, 2020. Winners will be notified by June 12, 2020. Applications can be picked up at the high school Guidance Office, the Little League at 72 Church St., Lodi, NJ. Questions can be directed to the Little League at 973-591-1137. *Robert C. Simpson. ###*

## Audrey Nagel Scholarship

Applications are now available for the annual Audrey L. Nagel Scholarship. Parochial School Eighth Graders who are residents of Wood-Ridge or parishioners of Assumption Parish in Wood-Ridge and will be attending a Catholic High School this coming fall are eligible. The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a student that has shown a commitment to their education, their school and their parish.

Mrs. Nagel passed away in June of 2009 following a 9½ year battle with breast cancer. She graduated from Assumption School in 1962. She attended Saint Mary’s High School in Rutherford and graduated from Montclair State University in 1970.

This scholarship is separate from any other scholarships being offered and a separate application must be submitted. Applications are available at the Assumption Friary, Corpus Christi Grammar School and by e-mail request janpro911@aol.com The deadline for applications is May 18, 2020. *###*

## Michael A. Schwarz Memorial Scholarship

Engine Company Two of the Carlstadt Fire Department has established a Scholarship in memory of Michael A. Schwarz, a 20-year-old Marine killed in action November 2006 in Iraq. Michael was a member of the Carlstadt Fire Department and a 2004 graduate of Becton Regional High School.

The scholarship is open to all Carlstadt residents graduating from High school this spring and furthering their education. The scholarship will be awarded to students who show dedication and service to their school and community.

Applications are available at the Carlstadt Borough Hall, 500 Madison Street, Carlstadt. The Borough Hall is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Scholarship applications must be completed and returned no later than May 5, 2020.

The members of Engine Two wish to thank everyone who donated to this scholarship fund. with your generous support the memory of Michael and his devotion to serve his country and community will live fo years to come. For more information about the scholarship, or to make a contribution, contact the Carlstadt Fire Department at 201-460-3942. *###*

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## Wood-Ridge Lions 2020 Scholarships

Applications for the Wood-Ridge Lions Club Annual Scholarships (*totaling a minimum of \$6,500*) are available. There will be a minimum of 4 awards presented.

The number of awards and the dollar amount will be determined by the selection committee. One award is given in the name of Lion Vinny Pascale, and all Charter Club Members, the second is presented in the names of Lions Jim Love Sr., and Phil Rottini, of Wood-Ridge, the third in the name of Lion William J. Nagel, of Moonachie. All of these deceased Club members served the Club and their communities with honor and distinction.

The 4th award will be presented in the name of Jack Nagel. He has been an active member of the Club for almost 40 years. He was recently honored at the annual Beefsteak Dinner when this newly named scholarship was announced.

Any Wood-Ridge or Moonachie resident graduating from an accredited high school may apply for these scholarships. Applications are available at Wood-Ridge High School, The Wood-Ridge Public Library, Assumption Church Friary and at JAN PROMOTIONS INC., 50 Moonachie Road, Moonachie. Deadline for applications is May 18. *###*

## HHMA Golf May 20

The HHMA will have their Annual Bizik-Hughes Memorial Golf Outing on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at the Meadows Golf Club, at 79 Two Bridges Road, Lincoln Park, NJ 07035.

The Golf Outing will be a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Breakfast and registration will take place at 7:30 a.m. The format will be Best Ball, 50/50 raffle and prizes. All money raised will be awarded as scholarships to qualified graduating seniors of Hasbrouck Heights.

Cost is \$125 pp and includes the following:

- Hot and cold breakfast buffet, eggs, sausage, bacon, potatoes, bagels, fruit, donuts, muffins, coffee, tea and juice.

- Lunch buffet, salad, penne vodka, sausage, peppers, onions and potatoes, eggplant rollatini, chicken marsala, vegetables, rice, dessert and coffee.

- Cash Contests - Longest Drive, Closest to Pin, Pot of Gold, \$10,000 Hole in One.

If interested in golfing, sponsorship or donation, email Steven Palladino at: spalladino326@gmail.com Or call 201-725-2917. *###*

## YMCA Golf Outing June 8

On Monday, June 8, 2020, the Meadowlands YMCA will hold its Annual Golf Outing at The Glen Ridge Country Club, 555 Ridgewood Avenue, Glen Ridge.

The scramble round of golf will feature some unique attractions for foursomes at each hole, such as whiskey tastings, live DJ, casino games, a hole-in-one challenge to win a car from Bellavia Chevrolet, and many more.

All funds raised during the event will support the Meadowlands YMCA to send children to summer camp this year through the “Y For All financial assistance program.”

The price is \$450 per person and \$1,800 per foursome. Sponsorships are available for the golf outing, such as presenting sponsor, individual holes, dinner, lunch, and others.

For information call, 201-955-5300. To register or secure a sponsorship online go to: MeadowlandsYMCA.org/golf *###*

## Matt Fenton Memorial 5K

**CANCELED:** The Annual Matt Fenton Memorial 5K Run/Walk at Willow Lake Park, Little Ferry, usually held in June has been canceled for 2020. *###*

## W R Lions Golf Outing

**POSTPONED:** On May 4, 2020, Wood-Ridge Lions Club 10th Annual Phil Rottini Golf Outing scheduled for May 4, at the Meadows Golf Club, 79 Two Bridges Road, Lincoln Park, has been postponed. No new date has been scheduled. Cost is \$140 per person. Singles and foursomes are welcome. There will be prizes, raffles and giveaways. Sponsorships are available: Tee signs \$75, Breakfast \$250 and lunch \$750. For more information, call 201-641-2803 or 551-486-6197. *###*

## Care Walk May 17

The Cooley's Anemia Foundation (CAF) (*dedicated to battling the genetic blood disorder Thalassemia Major, a.k.a. Cooley's Anemia*), will hold the 10th Annual Care Walk at Hasbrouck Heights Woodland Park on Sunday, May 17, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with food, face painting, balloon artist, blood drive, photo booth and more! \$20 registration fee.

This event is organized by Joe and Lisa Vigliotti, parents of 7 year old AJ, battling Beta Thalessemia.

For details, call Lisa at 201-306-2951 or go to: <https://tinyurl.com/TeamAJ2020>. *###*

## Rutherford Relay for Life - 2020

Please join us in the fight against cancer. We have all experienced cancer in our lives - either ourselves, our family or our friends.

This year the Rutherford Relay for life will start on Friday, May 15 at 6 p.m. to 12 a.m.

The event will be held at Tryon Field Memorial Park in Rutherford.

Among the events, there will be special recognition (honor) for our Survivors and Caregivers and Luminaria will acknowledge (honor) those we have lost.

Registration is available online at: <https://secure.acsevents.org/>

If you need further information, email: michael.porpiglia@cancer.org or call 512-490-8736. *###*

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On March 6, 2020, **Wood-Ridge Brownie Troop 97130 completed the First Aid Badge** with the help of EMT Tish Ferry. The girls learned when and when not to call 911, what should be in a first aid kit, and how to treat minor injuries. Ms. Ferry told them what EMTs do. She gave them a tour of the WR ambulance. It is wonderful to have Ms. Ferry, who is a lifelong WR Girl Scout, as a role model. *Provided by Jane Koegel. ###*



## Donate Blood

The Meadowlands YMCA hosted a blood drive on March 20, 2020 and collected 87 units of blood from 63 first-time donors. The Y will conduct monthly Blood Drives. The next collection date is on April 28. Visit [meadowlandsymca.org](http://meadowlandsymca.org) to make an appointment. *Photo by Teri Festa. ###*



## HHMA Honors Roccamo and Kasper

*The Hasbrouck Heights Men's Association honors Retired Chief Angelo Roccamo as "Man of the Year" for his 39 years of service to the Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department and to "Member of the Year," Kyle Kasper, for his years of service to the HHMA*

On Saturday evening, February 29, 2020, at their Annual Members Dinner, the Hasbrouck Heights Men's Association honored recently retired Chief of the Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department, Angelo Roccamo, as their "Man of the Year."

The Executive Board of the Men's Association voted unanimously for Chief Roccamo and

the way he has served his town and the Fire Department over his 39 years of service.

Under the direction of the Hasbrouck Heights Men's Association President, Steve Palladino, the Executive Board presented Chief Roccamo with the award in front of members of the organization and Chief Roccamo's extended family. He said he was honored to receive the award and enjoyed his many years on the Department. He was joined by his wife, Vivian, in the presentation of the award.

The Men's Association read off many of the Chief's accomplishments, including serving the Department for a second time as Chief over the

last three years.

The Executive Board also chose their 'Member of the Year' and it was with much praise that we awarded it to Kyle Kasper for his outstanding work in every project that he tackles for the organization. Mr. Kasper has lent his many talents to increasing business for our Annual Christmas Tree Sales.

The Executive Board and Membership of the Hasbrouck Heights Men's Association recognizes all its members for all their efforts in making Hasbrouck Heights a better community. *Provided by Justin Watrel. ###*





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