

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Summer CSA
- Spartan Race Coming to Virgil
- Public Hearing & Vote on Parker School
- Virgil Stories Vol. II Underway
- Historian's Corner
- Looking forward to Summer VBS

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Town of Virgil News

VOLUME V ISSUE I

SPRING 2020

Town and County Tax Collecting Season is Here

The Virgil Tax Collectors' office has been collecting the Town and County Taxes for the tax payers in Virgil for the 2020 tax season.

The Virgil Town Board did a wonderful job at keeping the town's budget flat for 2020, so if you look at your tax bill you will notice a 0% increase on your town tax levy for the Town of Virgil. There is a

2.90% increase in the County taxes and a 1.80% increase in the Virgil Fire District tax levy.

You are able to look up and pay your tax bills on our website at www.virgilny.org. When looking up your tax bill do not fill in all the fields, simply enter your last name or bill number if you know it. You

can pay with a credit card or e-check. There are fees associated with paying this way.

We will be collecting taxes here at the Town Clerk's Office until May 31st after that date we will turn all unpaid taxes over to the County Treasurer. Please let us know if you have any questions on taxes.

Virgil Historical Society

Virgil Historical Society meets on the third Thursday of September, November, March, and May at 7PM at the Virgil Town Hall, 1176 Church St. The next meeting will be March 19, 2019 and the speaker will be Virgil Historian Marsha Powell on "Virgil's Big Fire"

Marsha will speak on the house fire of March 14, 1899 that led to a murder conviction and appeals all the way to the Supreme Court. Don't miss it!

At the last meeting, Tom Jewett gave a sensational talk about the Cortland County soldiers who fought in the New York 76th Infantry Regiment in the Civil War and helped to turn the tide at Gettysburg. It seems like a long time since that meeting, but now that spring is around the corner

we will once again turn our thoughts to historical topics.

Some upcoming events to keep in mind are the election of new officers for the Historical Society. Please consider putting yourself forth for officer-ship.

We're keeping an eye on the Benner farm, where Gary Pelton thinks we'll find Native American artifacts. When the field is plowed, we hope to do a survey of the upturned soil. Please let me or Gary know if you'd be willing to help with this.

The second volume of the Virgil Stories book is well underway. We hope to hear an update from Sue Connelly at the meeting.

The Marathon Maple festival is April 18 and 19 this year. Don't miss it!



Band from Virgil, NY, year unknown. Does anyone know anything about this weird photo? Recognize the barn?

Primary and Early Voting

April 28, 2020 is the date scheduled for the Presidential primary. The primary will be held at the Virgil Town Hall from 6 AM– 9 PM on that date.

Beginning on April 18, 2020 to April 26, 2020, you will be eligible to vote early before the April 28, 2020 Presidential Primary.

The Early Voting polling site for Cortland County is located on 112 River Street, Cortland NY 13045. The entrance at the front of the building is handicap accessible.

Early voting votes will be canvassed and reported after 9pm on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

Absentee ballots are available if you are out of your home county, or if you live in New York City, are outside of the five boroughs, or if you

are permanently or temporarily disabled, ill or are the primary care giver for one or more people who are ill or physically disabled, or a resident of a Veterans Hospital, or detained in jail awaiting Grand Jury action or incarcerated for an offense other than a felony you may apply for an absentee ballot.

The dates and times for Early Voting are as follows:

Saturday, April 18, 2020: 9am-2pm
 Sunday, April 19, 2020: 9am-2pm
 Monday, April 20, 2020: 9am-5pm
 Tuesday, April 21, 2020: 12pm-8pm
 Wednesday, April 22, 2020: 9am-5pm
 Thursday, April 23, 2020: 12pm-8pm
 Friday, April 24, 2020: 9am-5pm
 Saturday, April 25, 2020: 9am-2pm
 Sunday, April 26, 2020: 9am-2pm

Hollenbeck's

Hollenbeck's Cider Mill will conclude its 87th season on March 15th, 2020. Your favorite goodies will be available on their usual schedule until then. The last day to pre-order pies will be March 12th for a March 13th pickup. On the 14th and 15th (Saturday and Sunday), pies will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Pies, donuts, pretzels, and cider will be available while supplies last.

After closing at 6PM on the 15th, Hollenbeck's will re-open in June for their summer season. Stay tuned to ads in the Standard, the Shopper, and on social media for an exact date. During the summer, the mill will be open Fridays and Saturdays 9AM-8PM and Sundays 9AM-3PM. They'll have pies, breads, pretzels, and pizza all summer, but you'll have to wait until the fall season for apple products.

“The CSA system helps the farmer because then they have money at the beginning of the season to buy things like seeds and supplies, and it helps the customer eat their veggies at a great price.”

“Call out your friends and create a team. Whether they’re helping you over a wall or chasing you up the mountain”



An example share. This was from mid-August, and includes scallions, cucumber, carrots, cauliflower, mixed cherry tomatoes, basil, red onion, green beans, summer squash and zucchini, lettuce, basil, and parsley. Article by: Sarah Sirois

Georgic Farm 2020 CSA

Georgic Farm is beginning its second year, right here in the heart of Virgil. The farm grows a variety of vegetables, as well as selling rabbits for meat. Last year the farm grew nearly 70 varieties of fruits and vegetables, and this year we plan to grow more than 90, without using any harmful chemicals! Most of those veggies are old standbys like carrots, beets, broccoli, and lettuce, but there are also a few unusual members of the cast like mustard, sweet potatoes, and fennel. All the fruits and vegetables Georgic Farm produces are sold either at the Virgil Farmers Market (Saturdays 9-12 in the summer), or through the farm’s Community Supported Agriculture program (CSA). CSA is a popular way for consumers to purchase farm-fresh products in a way that maximizes benefits for the farmer and minimizes costs for the customer. In short, it’s sort of like a vegetable sub-

scription. The consumer pre-pays upfront for a “share” of the farm, and then gets to pick up vegetables every week from June-October. When a crop does really well, the shareholder gets to enjoy the bounty right along with the farmer. This system helps the farmer because then they have money at the beginning of the season to buy things like seeds and supplies, and it helps the customer eat their veggies at a great price.

What are the benefits of joining a CSA? First, a CSA makes it easy and inexpensive to eat lots of high-quality vegetables. Picking up a share of fruits veggies each week means that CSA members always have great seasonal ingredients for healthy, delicious meals. And even though the up-front cost of a CSA might seem like a lot, it’s actually cheaper than buying all those veggies

from a supermarket or farmers market! In addition, CSAs are great for the environment because they reduce the carbon footprint of shipping and storage, and they build community by bringing farm members together. Plus you can see exactly where your food comes from, just like in days gone by. Georgic Farm still has openings in its 2020 Summer CSA. For more information, or to sign up, email georgicfarm@gmail.com, call 508-864-3715, or search for the farm on Facebook or Instagram. The cost of a share is \$550 for the whole season (only \$25/week), which includes 8-10 types of vegetables each week, along with a newsletter chock-full of farm news and delicious recipes. Pickups are held at Hollenbeck’s Cider Mill on Fridays from 4-7PM during the summer.

Public Hearing & Vote to be Held on Parker School

The Cortland City School district will hold a public hearing of qualified voters of the Cortland Enlarged City School District on March 24th, 2020 at the Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland NY, at 6:30 PM. The Public Hearing will be held for the public to speak on a proposition vote that will be held by paper ballot upon the adoption of a resolution to sell the Parker Elementary School building to the City of Cortland for the purchase price of \$91.00.

The vote will be held on March 31st between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 PM at the Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland New York.

Proposition: Shall the Board of Education be authorized to sell to the City of Cortland the building, grounds and improvements known as the former Parker Elementary school, being further known as tax map parcel # 86.49-01-02.000, containing 2.30 acres, and tax map parcel #86.49-01.000 containing 0.33 acre for a purchase price of \$91.00?

For more information on this or to find out more about getting an absentee ballot, please contact the Cortland Enlarged City School District at 607-758-4100.

Spartan Race 2020 at Greek Peak

The Spartan Race is coming to Virgil again this year. The Greek Peak Winter 5K Sprint will be held on March 7, 2020. Tackle the classic obstacles you’ve come to love (and fear), all while enduring the added challenge of a cold-hearted winter in central New York’s largest ski resort.

Call out your friends and create a team. Whether they’re helping you over a wall or chasing you up the mountain, make sure they are with you at the starting line. Teams can be made up of any size, but must have at least 4 members. The best way to ensure that you are starting at the exact time as your friends is to create a team during resignation.

Any racers that are registered as part of a team will be moved to the common team start time. Bib numbers are assigned ten days prior to the event. If you are not interested in racing, you might be interested in being a spectator. If you sign up to be a spectator you will enjoy music, raffles, entertainment and festival challenges. You will revive a front row seat to watch the racers from a safe, comfortable and relatively mud-less Spartan Race festival ground area.

Go to www.spartan.com for more information on the race and how you can sign up.

Creative Cortland— A Winter Visual Arts Gallery

Creative Cortland! - CRT Downtown becomes a hip and trendy gallery showcasing the work of Cortland's very best artists, including professionals, amateurs and students!

A Grand Opening was held on February 28 where folks enjoyed light appetizers with beer/wine cash bar. Tickets for the Opening Night Gala was only \$10 per person.

Weekly Hours:

Monday – Friday, March 2 – 6 from 9am – 5pm
 Saturday, March 7 from Noon – 5pm
 Sunday, March 8 from Noon – 5pm

Entrance to the gallery is free with a \$5 suggested donation.

ARTISTS: Deadline for all applications was February 7, perhaps you may be interested in next years event. If you are interested in participating next year email ArtGallery@cortlandrep.org for more information.



Experience Cortland County Convention & Visitors Bureau is a website dedicated to getting information out about what is going on in Cortland County. There are links to area restaurants, pizzerias, Cafes and Bakeries, ice-cream shops, breweries, wineries, distilleries and bars. They also have listings of hotels, motels, bed & Breakfast, camping, Cortland Inn-keepers and vacation rentals. The website keeps up on current events, letting us know what is going on in the area. You will be surprised to see that there is so much going on in Cortland County. There is one section on the website which spot lights up coming events., such as Cortland Chill-A-Bration that took place on February 29th. I would highly recommend checking out the website to find out what is going on and to find a cure for the end of winter blues. Visit www.experiencecortland.com for details.

Cortland County Legislator

By: Sandy Price

People on the legislative agenda: Catherine Fuerherm, Public Health Director, is retiring after 31 years of service. Mark Thayer, Mental Health Director, is moving on after nine years of stellar service. Shannon Phillips was appointed Employment & Training Director. Best wishes to each.

March was designated Agriculture and Awareness Day in recognition of Cortland County's number one industry. Approval was given to distribute fourth quarter sales tax. Harford will receive \$72,470.32 and Virgil \$196,786.29. I voted no along with Ron Van Dee. All other legislators voted yes on a resolution to "Amend 2020 Budget \$ Transfer \$600,000 from the Jail Reserve to the Cortland County General Fund"; specially \$250,000 for professional services, \$29,675 for association dues and \$320,325 for a capital project reserve. My thinking was this. I supported paying the planning groups dues. I could support putting money in the general fund to fix the COB roof if that project proceeds. I do not support spending of up to \$250,000 on an efficiency study. I support transferring the money, but due to the details I couldn't support the resolution.

I support efficiency but not at that cost. We have talented people in our community including our newly appointed county administrator with the skills to help lead us to possibly the same conclusions. And guess what - in years past we have held successful summits at no costs to do just that. Maybe not a slick colored brochure at the end, but there were results none the less.

A few short months ago we were all anguishing over cutting senior center hours, and many other worthy budget considerations. Now to throw that amount of money for that is not my idea of a prudent spending.

Is there anything I should be aware of or doing?

Thought for the month:

Never put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket. Sandy Price Cortland County Legislator

Virgil Stories Volume II

By: Sue Connelly

Now is the perfect time to put fingers to keyboard or pen to page to record your favorite scenes from life in Virgil. The Virgil Historical Society has begun collecting stories for a second volume of the popular community narrative, Virgil Stories, and everyone is encouraged to participate, including those who wrote passages for the first book.

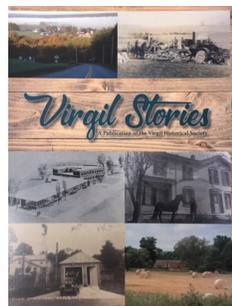
The first volume contained tales of history, mystery and coming of age. Readers enjoyed the retelling of local ad-

ventures, the wonderful photos and especially the word pictures describing the beauty of the land. The new volume will keep all those themes alive plus add new stories about more recent aspects of living in the Virgil area. Don't have a copy of Virgil Stories Volume I? The book is available at the Virgil Town Hall for \$20. We are currently sold out, but we are planning on have more books printed soon.

Stories should be between 200 and 1000 words long. Pictures that accom-

pany stories are appreciated. Be sure to identify the time period in which the event or insight you are describing takes place. You may write about yourself or about the life of someone else. Stories may be emailed to sjconnelly@aol.com or (paper) mailed to Sue Connelly at 1041 Church Street, Cortland, New York 13045.

Stories should be submitted by the end of May or earlier. THANK YOU!





Town of Virgil

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1176 Church Street
Virgil, NY 13045

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Fax: 607-835-6668

**We're here to serve you. Visit
our website at:**

www.Virgilny.org



VISA



Virgil Town Supervisor: John Kaminski
Deputy Supervisor: Jereme Stiles
Town Council Members: Eric Snow
Gary Pelton
Matt Denniston

The Town Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Meetings start at 6:30 P.M.

- Town Clerk/Collector: Alane Van Donsel
- Deputy Clerk Makenzie Morgan
- Town's Bookkeeper: Gina Nourse
- Town Justice: R. Scott Elston
- Highway Superintendent: Britt Morse
- Deputy Highway Supervisor: Dan Courtney
- Animal Control Officer: Lindsay Kemp
- Town Assessor: Brian Fitts
- Town Attorney: Patrick M. Snyder, Esq.
- Code Enforcement: Kevin McMahon
- Zoning Officer Adam Brown
- County Legislator: Sandy Price
- Town Historian: Marsha Powell

A Wedding Hoax?

By: Marsha Powell, Town Historian

One evening in the 1860's, a group of young people met at the West Meeting House for their monthly singing school. After the lesson, there was always an hour or so left free for games and recreation. This was the usual routine.

For this particular evening's entertainment, someone suggested having a mock wedding. A very willing couple volunteered to act as bride and groom. Bridesmaids and Ushers were assigned. The minister, Mr. Crumb, lived next door to the West Meeting House and was called over to perform the ceremony.

The ceremony proceeded. A delightful celebration followed the ceremony, as is usual at weddings. In the days that followed, the story of the evening's activities was spread through town and it

came to Mr. Crumb's ears that this was supposed to have been a mock wedding. He disagreed with this, stating that no such idea had been made clear to him, and as far as he was concerned, the couple was legally married.

The participants were horrified. The town was abuzz with gossip. Finally, calmer heads prevailed and all involved appeared at the home of Page Green. Mr. Green practiced law in the area, although he was not a member of the bar.

After listening to all the evidence, Mr. Green charged them \$5.00 and declared: "What God and the old minister has joined together, I, Page Green, set asunder." Everyone breathed a sigh of relief.



Vacation Bible School

**Mon June 29 - Fri July 3
9 a.m. - Noon**

**Virgil United Methodist Church
PreK-Grade 6**

Climb aboard for a mountain of fun at Rocky Railway VBS! A faith-filled adventure where kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs.

To volunteer or for more information contact Gayle Kryger: 607-543-0833, gkryger@greekpeakmtnresort.com

