



*Hillside Ave.*



*Road Four Spring 2019*

# Road Four

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLDENS BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Spring  
2019



Lola Metz (Feb. 20, 1928–Dec. 11, 2018) began coming to Goldens Bridge as a 10-year old with her parents, Meyer and Sarah Gottlieb, and younger sisters Irene and Nina. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was in the middle of his second term as president. G.B. was “the country,” and a respite from the concrete environment of the Bronx and later the East Village. It was where she developed a love of nature, animals and plants, which informed and brought joy to all her days. She learned the names of the flowers and plants, loved to watch birds, caterpillars, turtles, frogs and snakes, and pleaded with her parents for a pet, which she was finally granted—a field mouse she caught herself. Many years later, as a kindergarten teacher at PS 107 in Park Slope, she brought a garter snake to her classroom, where it lived in a glass cage until it got free one day, sending the school into a panic that Lola found absurd. She found it later that day, curled up on the blackboard ledge with the chalk and nonchalantly returned it to its cage.

As she got older, Lola also loved drawing, painting, the play of light through prisms, marbles, found pieces of glass and whatever whimsical objects crossed her path. Money was scarce and presents were pretty much nonexistent until her teen years, when she received a book she treasured as a birthday present. Like the rest of her family and the G.B. community itself, Lola embraced social justice and activism, but had difficulties with the direction she was steered in: she would have liked to have stuffed envelopes for the cause, but had trouble accosting strangers on the street and talking to them about political campaigns. In later years, she and her closest friend Belle were told to work in a pencil factory and organize the workers; both developed allergies and had to quit within a couple of weeks.

At City College, she was an art history major, and her deep appreciation for art also enriched her life. Her visual talent took many forms, and she enjoyed antiquing, stripping and refinishing furniture, embroidery and jewelry making, where she made beautiful rings, pendants and belts for family and friends, working in gold, silver and brass, mastering the lost wax method and cloisonné. She would later receive a master’s in education from Brooklyn College, where she took courses with painters such as Ad Reinhardt. As a popular and longtime kindergarten teacher, she was known for being both creative, with many art projects, and took pride in seeing the progress of her young students from the start to the end of a year.



Lola, Jeremy, Cara

She met Harold Metz at a party given by a mutual friend, and opposites did attract. Where she was shy, he was garrulous; where she was careful and neat, he was not, fixing cars and appliances and anything that broke down, leaving sometimes permanent residue from his handiwork. They married and were loving parents to their two children, Jeremy and Cara, who also had the benefit of summers in Goldens Bridge, an appreciation of nature, learning to swim and camping under the stars with the summer camp.

It wasn’t until she was 43 and got her birth certificate to apply for a passport for a family trip to Europe that Lola learned her mother was not her biological mother. Who was this Rita Engel on her birth certificate? Her parents downplayed the importance, but she learned that her mother, Meyer’s first wife, was an opera singer, who had died of an infection from childbirth in those days before antibiotics, when Lola was just five months old.

Meyer, to his credit, had not given her up, but had trouble finding caretakers as he worked the necessary six-day workweek at his locksmith store. Lola was shuffled from paid caregivers in the city to a relative in New Jersey for the first three years of her life, seeing her father once a week on Sunday. It wasn’t until Meyer married Sarah that she was taken home and had a stable, loving family.

In her later years, Lola enjoyed travel and took annual trips with her beloved sister Irene in California, and traveled to Europe and Costa Rica, Venezuela and Mexico with close friends Belle, Jackie and others. She never lost her appreciation of art, enjoying galleries and street art in Bushwick, a revelation in her later years, or her fondness for classical music, opera (not shared by any of her offspring), folk music and nearly all things on PBS. Her piquant critiques of those she did not appreciate (“Tony Bennett should have retired long ago;” Leonard Cohen “You call that singing? That’s talking.”) will ring in our ears forever.

She was a loyal friend, a loving parent, concerned wife, as she tried to steer Harold to the healthier foods he often avoided to the end of his days; very appreciative mother-in-law to Denise and Rick, and devoted grandparent to Allison, Nico, Jordan and Talia, reveling in their antics as they grew from infants to children and feeling pride as they became young adults. Goodbye, mom, we are glad we had these many years with you.

*Welcome to the Colony!*  
**New baby on Branch Street**

Congratulations to the new parents  
John & Kaz Turiano  
on the birth of their daughter  
Kira Giovanna Turiano  
on Dec. 21, 2018  
8 lbs., 20¼ inches.



Whitney Elliot with sons Noah and Grant  
enjoying a morning on our frozen lake.



**GOLDENS BRIDGE DAY CAMP**



**CAMP REMINDER**

Please remember that not only do Colony members get a discounted rate for camp; any grandchildren, nephews, nieces or cousins also qualify for this lower rate.

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

Register by March 30, 2019  
and get last year's prices.  
Camp starts July 1st.  
Register online at:

<https://www.goldensbridgedaycamp.com>

Camp is looking for counselors and specialists in the areas of sports, nature and drama. Please apply at [goldensbridgedaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:goldensbridgedaycamp@gmail.com)

**Social Calendar**

The complete social calendar is not ready yet, but Elliot Sokolov has given us a few important dates confirmed by the Social Committee. The first summer BBQ will be held on July 6th, and the volleyball tournament/BBQ will be Saturday, August 3rd. The banquet date is Saturday, August 31st. Folk dancing will continue on Friday nights. We can't wait!

**Thanks Gang!**

Remember all the trees we were worried about? Eric Stand and Mark Schmid walked the roads identifying trees that were in danger of falling, causing damage and perhaps injuries. Michael Brown secured a contract with a reliable contractor who cut down over 40 trees. Although there were many more trees that needed to be removed, the job was completed by mid January. Thank you to all who participated.

## A Report from the Town of Lewisboro Building Department—by *Martha Levites*

At the January membership meeting, there was some discussion about how we can proactively prevent a derelict building in our community from becoming a dangerous eyesore. It seemed like a good idea to many members to learn the role of the Town in such situations. Consequently, I met with Joseph Angiello, our new town building inspector.



First and foremost, Mr. Angiello said his department was tremendously understaffed. The Lewisboro Building Department doesn't have a code enforcement officer as the surrounding towns do. That means that Mr. Angiello has the full task of permitting new structures as well as code enforcement for existing structures. As a result, he has to prioritize complaints so that he responds to what he termed as egregious violations that involve life and safety. The former Mansfield house on Main Street was such an egregious example. He stated explicitly that many code violations cannot be enforced because of time and budgetary constraints. Additionally, Mr. Angiello recognizes that many

violations are often due to families not having the finances to make repairs. He believes fining them only makes the situation worse.

What then in his eyes are major violations? The two situations he raised were:

1. Severe structural damage that creates an unsafe environment.
2. Lack of safety fencing around a pool

Of those two, it's only the first that is relevant for us.

He specifically stated that rodent and trash issues had to be considered minor violations at this time.

Once the building department identifies an egregious situation, it needs to chase down the owner. The owner is then given 30 days to correct any serious violations. If that is not accomplished, the building department sends the issue to the Town Court. Presumably the owner is then fined. The only way the Town can have a building taken down is if it owns the property. This can happen if the owner doesn't pay taxes to the town. Furthermore, the building inspector cannot enter a house to look for violations.

What then is the best way for our community to address an egregious situation?

I suggest that when a member sees a situation such as a damaged roof or open structure that is not occupied, the member report it to the Executive Board. I believe the first action should be a letter to the owner from the Board. If the structure is bank-owned, the Board should notify the Building Department detailing how the structure is a safety hazard.



## Seventeen Acre Saga—by *Rina Slavin*

When I first moved to the Colony about thirty years ago—yes, I know that makes me a newcomer. I was overwhelmed by the idea of the community-designated seventeen acres to be forever green. I have no spatial skills and the seventeen acres seemed to me to be enormous—imagine, all that land to hike and explore. Being able to walk from Pond St. to West Main St. through the woods—being able to visit Brady Brook and see everything that lives there, and then cross it and walk to the Audubon property. And the camping; I was in heaven.

After about ten years I got the nerve to sit on the grassy part of the beach with the “real” residents, and, I began speaking to Joy Gross. I learned that she owned some of the property adjacent to the seventeen acres. She knew the camp had a campsite there and was happy that they were using it. This just added to my impression of the uniqueness of the Colony.

Well, nothing lasts forever, sadly, and in February 2017, Joy decided to no longer allow people to walk on her property. That is her right; it is her property. She called me, in my capacity as the Camp Director, and stated that the camp would no longer have access to her property. This would not allow the campers to camp at the campsite, hike to West Main St. or go to Brady Brook to frog hunt and study water life. I consulted with Adam Huggard, our treasurer at the time, and he suggested that our insurance would indemnify Joy if any injury occurred on her property. The Colony's insurance would cover walking and camping on Joy's property. If anything should occur and anyone would get sued because of it, it would be directed at the Colony and not Joy. I presented this to Joy but she rejected it, again, as is her right.

Joy then had the property posted with “No Trespassing Signs.” Signs were also put up that warned of legal consequences for trespassing. One is still there—a picture is attached.

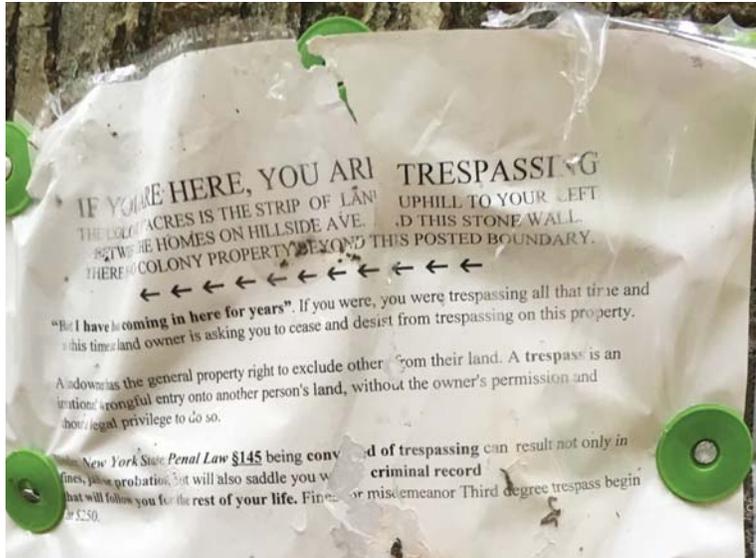
We are so lucky in the Colony that when there is a problem, folks rush in to help. In this case it was Elizabeth Milliot. She offered to construct a new campsite on Colony property. For months she and her family and Maeve McGrory worked to create a beautiful campsite. Elizabeth even held a fundraiser to get funds to purchase a beautiful picnic table for the site. She constructed, seasoned and transported the picnic table to the

new campsite. The camp is very grateful for all her help.

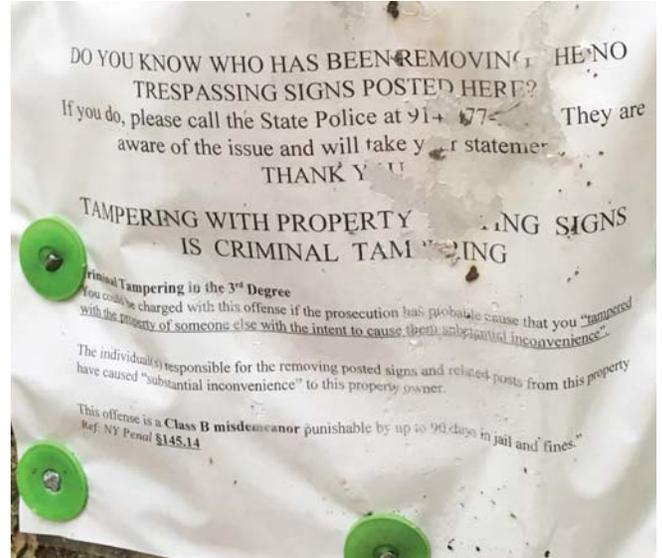
At the July 2017 community meeting, the question of access to Joy's property was raised. Joy stated that she was "worried about the children getting hurt while hiking." Elliot Sokolov asked if adults would be able to continue walking there; Joy replied in the negative.

The seventeen acres were designated to be forever green and provide our community with a lovely area to explore, hike, and a safe place for camp programs. We will all miss the days where we could explore even further.

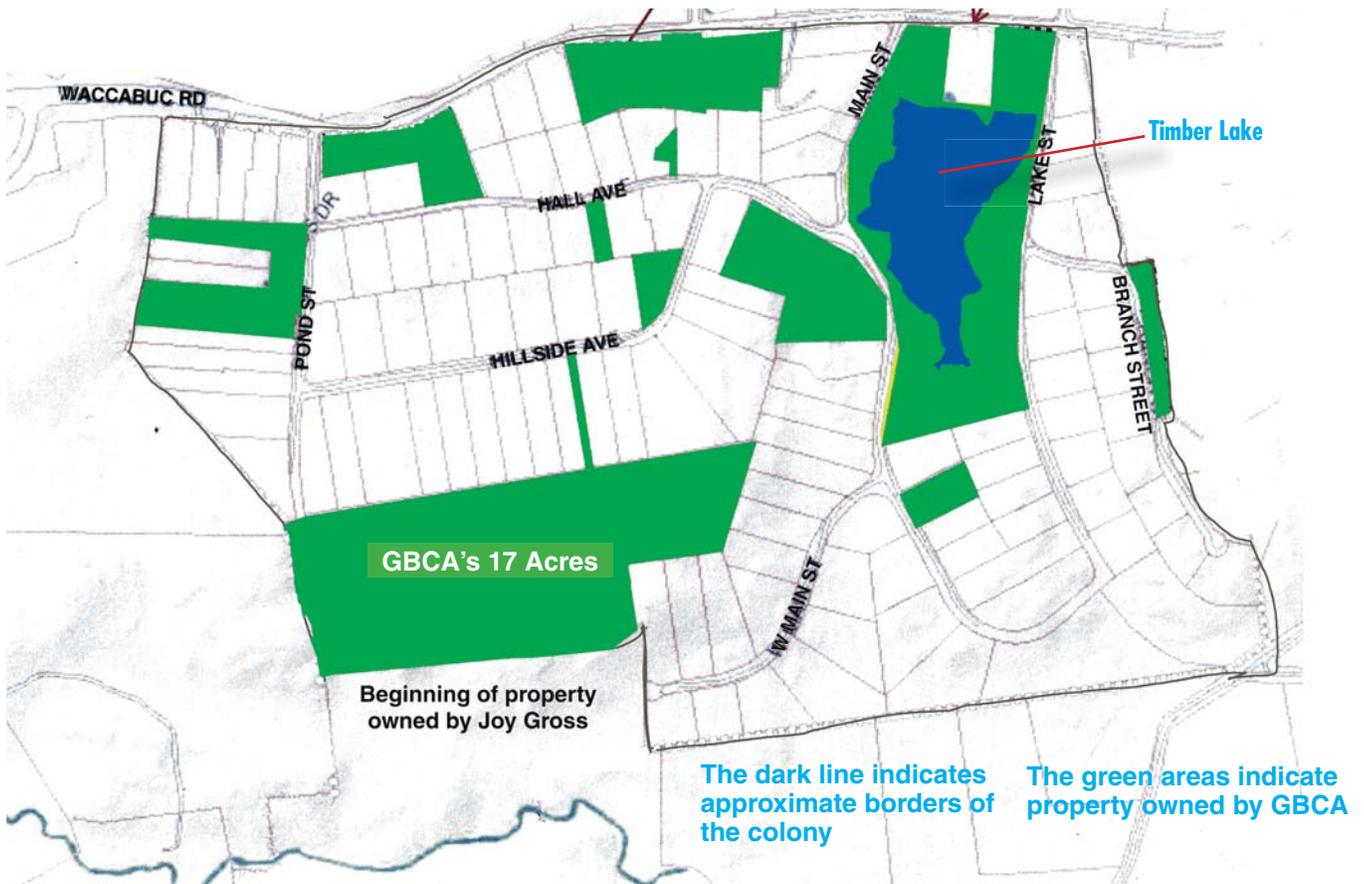
Top of Sign Posted on Tree



Bottom of Sign Posted on Tree



The map below, originally developed by Adam Huggard when he was treasurer, is intended to provide the best approximation of the extent of the Golden Bridge Colony. One can see all the property owned by the community and the area where the seventeen acres end and Joy's property begins. Note the thin line that connects Hillside Ave. to the seventeen acres. The camp has posted a trailhead there and groomed a path to make it easier to access.



## Seeing Through Heroic Eyes

Abraham Weitzman, December 3, 2018

Reality and Perception

It is often suggested that we try to walk in someone else's shoes or see through someone else's eyes. What this really means is that we should be aware of others' perspectives so we can understand their feelings.

It is not enough to read an account of their experiences or to watch a documentary. We need to identify with them, to care about them, to see past their personal failures, so that our feelings about their lives go from sympathy to empathy. This is difficult when the other people are real with characteristics that are ugly. Fiction and drama provide the opportunity to tell a story by promoting heroic characters with flaws, instead of just ordinary people. Authors paint characters in a light that emphasizes what they want the reader to focus on, whether good or bad. They adjust the view and frame the subject.

In our real lives, we know imperfect people. Sometimes their bad qualities outshine what we admire. This does not mean they are bad, though it may seem that way. In stories, authors adjust the emphasis on different aspects of people. They can show a kind thief and a generous mobster. In my life I have seen people hurt each other's feelings. It is tempting to label them as mean. Instead I think of Sherlock Holmes. He often hurts and insults his friends, but Arthur Conan Doyle does not show us a mean man. Sherlock is a brilliant detective with bad manners. This knowledge changes my perception of real people. I think about their strengths and minimize rudeness next to accomplishments. If we can focus on what makes someone great, we may discern the distinction between flaws and terrible character.

In his tragedies, Shakespeare shows heroes as they evolve. They start out in an important social position. They are from important families and often achieve greatness before they are tormented by losing what they value most. The fall of a great person was designed to appeal to a society centered on the Elizabethan monarchy. Shakespeare's audience cared about kings and those next in line. In his plays, Hamlet is undone by revenge and Macbeth by ambition. These traits are found in ordinary people as well. By seeing them in otherwise idealized characters, we can identify similar people in reality and perceive them as separate from their actions.

Hamlet is a prince, well liked by friends and loved by Ophelia, the woman he plans to marry. His father's death brings his tragic flaw, an unbridled drive for revenge, to the surface. We can hardly blame him, since we are meant to admire him. This allows us to gain an

understanding of vengeful people. We can see how someone might be a good person who commits malevolent acts. Justice is easily confused with revenge. It feels unfair when a criminal evades punishment or is rewarded. Justice is a societal process that can be slow. The wronged party may not want to wait while the wheels putter along. I have a friend who will not wait to have justice served. She takes revenge instead. Hamlet helps me understand her, even when I am upset by what she does.

Macbeth is a successful general and a nobleman. He is highly regarded by his soldiers and other military leaders. His trouble begins when the war is won. Excellence cannot be achieved nor victory attained by sitting at home. Macbeth is driven, internally and by Lady Macbeth, to greatness. This ambition gives him the will to kill his king, Duncan, so that he can ascend the throne. Shakespeare shows us the two sides of ambition: success and desperation for more. It is important to have ambitious goals. Without them we may lack direction. It is only when the drive to achieve overwhelms our morality that we have a problem.

Just as there is one king, there is one gold medal. When I think about all the athletes who, after a lifetime of training, resort to performance enhancing drugs, I think that the trouble starts with the idea that extraordinary effort entitles them to automatic success. They cheat because they have worked so hard and cannot accept failure. As Macbeth sees his chance to be king slip away, he is spurred to action by Lady Macbeth. Similarly, athletes are pushed by coaches when they also will benefit from the ring or trophy. Macbeth changes my perception of real people who avoid failure by any means necessary. For these athletes, the combination of their efforts and the pressure from their community makes them feel they have no choice but to seek greatness at any cost.

In modern tragedies, it is the ordinary person we are supposed to care about. These characters are small, with little influence in the world. It is their persistence in the face of failure that makes us admire them. They struggle to hold on to a life that no one would choose. The struggle is foremost, the goal is irrelevant.

Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* is tragedy at its plainest. Willy Loman is just trying to make it through his life. He lives paycheck to paycheck. He tries to connect with his sons, but they have no respect for him. His career is over, and yet he continues to show up. He is a sorry shell of a man, but he keeps trying. We all know men who are past their prime but refuse to give up. They insist they have "still got it" long after "it" is gone. They can be incredibly annoying; we are stuck listening to them at family gatherings. If I think

of Willy Loman, I am reminded that bravery is not always about confronting a monster in the forest. It can also be brave to face inadequacies and continue despite certain failure. That sort of bravery is deep and invisible.

While the focus of the play is on Willy, his wife is the hero we overlook all the time. She is the only one who cares about him. She is loyal despite his infidelity. She believes in him when everyone else knows he is at the end. She works to make a happy home, though her efforts go unappreciated. It is doing the right thing in the face of failure that makes us admire her, if we pay attention. The world is full of people whose efforts go unnoticed. Real women and men put nutritious meals on the table, fresh laundry in dressers, and words of encouragement in their spouses' ears. Reading about Willy's wife reminds us to notice and

appreciate the small kindnesses of those who protect and care for us.

Over the course of our lives we find people who disappoint us. It helps to see their strengths too. The way we perceive our family and friends impacts the reality of our relationships. We can change our perceptions by reading and thinking about idealized fictional characters who are similar to those we know. Stories can also help us understand people we have not met. They help us see refugees and convicted felons as real human beings worthy of care. We live in an imperfect world, filled with imperfect people, trying to make it through the day. It is easier to empathize with real people when we perceive them as flawed heroes. Give it a try.

*Abraham Weitzman is a 15-year-old writer from New York City. He is the grandson of Dan Fast and the Late Judy Fast.*

### A school district in Northern Westchester has officially gone green.

As of Friday, Feb. 1, all of the electricity used by the Katonah-Lewisboro School District will be from renewable sources, namely wind that is generated by turbines in Texas. The purchase of 100 percent green power was approved by the Board of Education last month at their Jan. 17 meeting. District officials said, "it is the latest step in the district's commitment to reducing its total carbon footprint." An audit conducted in 2015 found that the district's top four sources of greenhouse gasses were fuel-related: heating oil for the buildings, gasoline used by employees for their commutes, diesel used by district school buses, and electricity generated by burning fossil fuels. "Through participation in an energy purchasing cooperative, we identified a cost-efficient way to purchase 100 percent certified green electricity," Katonah-Lewisboro Assistant Superintendent for Business Mike Jumper stated. "This change will reduce the district's overall greenhouse gas inventory by 13 percent."

According to district officials, while the cost for purchasing certified green power is slightly more than electricity produced by conventional means—adding less than 14 hundredths of one cent per kilo-

watt hour—administrators and members of the Board unanimously opted to use renewable resources. They noted the district will pay slightly less than 6 cents per kilowatt-hour for the supply of wind-powered electricity through May 2021.

"Since 2008, energy use has gone down in all tracked categories," Paul Christensen, the district's director of facilities, said. "The reduction is due to upgrading lighting, increasing insulation, replacing inefficient boilers, adding building system controls, installing occupancy sensors, and many other items district-wide."

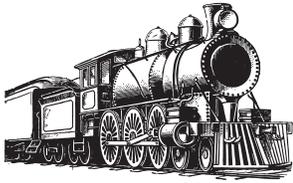
Mary Ford, the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction added in a statement, "the new energy contract provides a unique opportunity for KLSD educators to engage our students in conversations about sustainability and our own sustainable practices. "Whether it is a research paper on the environmental benefits of green power, a science lesson on climate change and the impact of greenhouse gasses, or a math problem that tasks students with analyzing the costs and benefits of green power versus other sources of electricity, this initiative provides inspiration for students to investigate and contribute to local solutions for authentic global challenges."

TOWN OF LEWISBORO—NOTICE OF ADOPTION  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro did at a Town Board meeting on June 25, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lewisboro Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York, 10590, adopt a local law of the Town Code of the Town of Lewisboro which would enact Chapter 181, entitled "Retail Checkout Bags and EPS (Styrofoam). The purpose of this chapter is to improve the environment in the Town of Lewisboro (the "Town") and to protect the health, safety and general welfare of its residents by encouraging the use of reusable cloth or heavy plastic

bags and banning single-use plastic bags for retail checkout of purchased goods. Retail establishments are encouraged to make cloth reusable bags available for sale and to encourage shoppers to bring their own reusable bags. In furtherance of the aforementioned purpose, it is also the intention of this chapter to prohibit the use of styrofoam containers and styrofoam cups by delis, food stores, food establishments and restaurants.

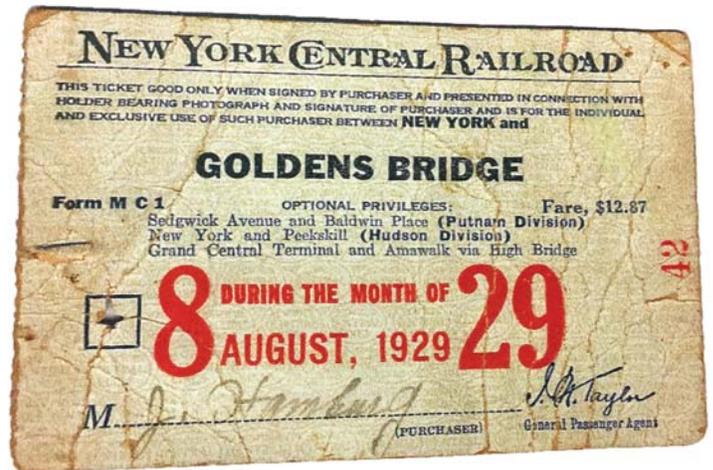
Dated: June 26, 2018  
By order of the town board  
Janet I. Donohue, town clerk

## Rapid Transit in 1929



Back in 1929, \$12.87 would buy you a monthly passage from Goldens Bridge to Grand Central Station on a train pulled by a steam locomotive. In today's dollars, the same ticket (factoring in inflation) you may guess would be around \$188.99 or thereabouts. However, the monthly fare as of March 19, 2017 is \$369.00, approximately twice the inflation rate over the 90-year period. Back in 1929, the trip was longer, noisier, the cars hotter in summer, and you occasionally inhaled the pollution coming from the engine's smokestack. Soon after this ticket expired, on October 24, 1929, what history recalls as Black Thursday, the stock market crashed.

By the way, notice the signature on the bottom of the ticket.



### Shopping in the Hamlet

This shopping area along Route 22 was the business center of the hamlet of Goldens Bridge for a number of years before the road was widened in 1987.

(Image submitted by Mike Brown)

The postcard shown on the right, is from Mike Brown's collection of vintage postcards.



MAIN STREET, GOLDENS BRIDGE, N. Y.



## Recycling And Composting

The information illustrated (right) was sent to all residents of Bedford. It is included for all our members since the first two categories, Recycling and Regular Waste, are the same for residents of Lewisboro.

Please note the section on composting which already exists in Bedford and many down county communities. Should it be available in Lewisboro? Some members would welcome the opportunity to distribute their compost. Interested members should contact Chris Broburg at [cwbroburg@gmail.com](mailto:cwbroburg@gmail.com).



### Single Stream Recycling

Curbsite pickup by private contractor.



### Regular Waste

Curbsite pickup by private contractor



### Community Compost

Recycle Center  
343 Railroad Av. Bdf Hills  
Tues/Thus/Sat 8am-3pm



#### PLASTIC



milk cartons, bubble wrap, toys, juice boxes, cd's, buckets, toys etc.

#### PAPER



paper, paper cups, magazines, cardbox etc.

#### GLASS



jars, bottles, window-glass etc.

#### METAL



aluminum, iron, tin, foil, copper etc.

Clean and disconnect items before disposal



(styro)foam, vinyl, latex, EVA, rubber, chewing gum



silvery/foil chip bags and silvery candy wrappers



pyrex or mirror glass, incandescent light bulbs



small home construction crafts, glitter acrylic paint etc.

Regular waste generally consist of less than 30% of total household waste

These items can be regular waste, or can be composted:



food, including dairy, meat, fish, shells, peels etc.

paper teabags and coffee grounds

compostable plates, cups and cutlery

uncoated soiled paper, tissue, newspaper etc.

Join the free Community Compost program or learn about backyard composting: [www.bedford2020/compost.org](http://www.bedford2020/compost.org)

### Waste Solutions in the Town Of Bedford

Proper disposal of waste saves money and is better for the environment. More information: [www.bedford2020.org/waste.org](http://www.bedford2020.org/waste.org)



For disposal of items not listed on this card, please visit [www.bedford2020.org/recyclopedia](http://www.bedford2020.org/recyclopedia)

# Board & Membership Minutes

## GBCA Membership Meeting Minutes October 28, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 AM by Rina Slavin, President  
Present: 24 Voting Members and approximately 12 other community members.

1- Reading of Minutes:

The minutes from the August 26, 2018 Membership meeting were read, corrected, and accepted as corrected.

2- Financial report:

Paul Stewart-Stand Treasurer, gave the Financial Report as follows:

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Operating Account   | \$ 72,104 |
| Scholarship account (includes \$1000 bank reserve)            | \$ 1,021  |
| Camp account (includes \$10,000 reserve)                      | \$ 10,680 |
| Water Capitol Improvement (includes \$7,800 water op. salary) | \$ 39,823 |
| Capitol Improvements  | \$130,895 |
| Total   | \$254,524 |

Paul reported that there are 3 members in arrears and 5 members on payment plans. Paul also noted that the Camp ran a very small deficit of approximately \$1300.

3- 2019 Budget:

Paul Stewart-Stand reviewed the 2019 Budget. It was decided to increase the line item for land surveys from \$1500 to \$2500. It was also noted that some form of permanent marker must be placed at the corners when the surveys are done in order to maintain those locations.

During discussion of the Budget John Bergherr moved, seconded by Pearl Klainberg, that the Barn front not be re-sided, but instead be re-finished. In favor: 6; opposed: 11; abstaining: 3. Motion defeated.

After further discussion Pearl Klainberg moved, seconded by Gerry Sircus, to approve the 2019 Budget as presented by Paul. Carried unanimously.

4- New Payment Plan:

Paul Stewart-Stand described the new Payment Plan procedure and charges. Considerable discussion ensued. The new Payment Plan will go into effect in 2019.

5- Committee reports:

Camp:

Annette Kroun reported that the year was successful, and that the Camp committee was planning to continue to hold events for community children, and asked for the Social committee to underwrite some of the costs.

Water:

Ron Arnstein reported that the water is flowing.

Beach:

No report. Eric Stand asked that the drains at the steps be cleaned as they are pretty filled up. Drew Orr will attend to that.

Barn:

Mike Brown reported that the committee is pursuing new bids for the re-siding work.

Lake:

Eric Stand reported that he is still seeking pricing for the dredging work at the south end of the lake. Eric stated that the turbidity levels in the lake appear to have gone down since the forebay and in front of concrete dam work was completed.

Sales and Legal:

Jeremy Metz reported that there are presently 3 properties for sale in the Colony: 2 Pond Street at \$679,000; 15 Hall Avenue at \$279,000; 39 Main Street at \$799,000; 43 Main Street at \$499,000.

Social:

Martha Levites reported that a Newcomer's Action Committee has been formed in order to maintain the character of our community. She noted that about 20% of the homes are owned by relatively new owners.

Martha stated that there will be a Social in the Barn for all community members next Sunday at 2 PM.

Martha stated that the committee feels that older members in the community should "adopt" new members in order to have the newer people have someone to go to with questions about the community, and asked for volunteers for that project.

Road 4:

Gerry Sircus stated that the last issue contained much more community news, and urged all to continue to send in material.

Other committees had no reports at this time.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned, at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Dan Fast, Secretary.

### **GBCA Board Minutes November 11, 2018**

Present:

Rina Slavin: President, Ron Arnstein: Vice President, Paul Stewart-Stand: Treasurer, Dan Fast: Secretary, Mike Brown, Gerry Sircus, Fred Margolies, Ben Goldner, Drew Orr, Chris Broberg, Carol Nordgren, Hannah Yates, Patrick dePaula, Jeremy Metz

Meeting called to order at 9:40 AM by Rina Slavin: President.

1- Minutes:

The minutes of the 10/14/18 Regular Board meeting were read, corrected, and accepted as corrected.

2- Financial:

The current financial report, as of 11/10/18 was given by Paul:

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| M&T Bank                    | \$ 75,080  |
| M&T Bank (Scholarship Fund) | \$ 1,021   |
| M&T Camp Account            | \$ 10,576 (includes \$10,000 Camp reserve          |
| M&T Water Capitol           | \$ 39,825 (includes \$7,800 Water Operator salary) |
| M&T Capitol Improvement     | \$130,906  |
| Total                       | \$257,408  |

There are currently 3 members in arrears as of 10/12/18, with 3 members on payment plans for 2018. The members in arrears are: Apter, Burgun, and Rios. Liens are in place on Apter and Rios properties.

3- Committee Reports:

Camp:

Ben reported that Rina will be returning as Director, and that the Camp committee is meeting this week for a final expense and budget review.

Beach:

Hannah and Drew reported that the Boat House and Bathrooms roof was replaced at a cost of \$4000, \$1000 under budget. Drew reported that the electric service to that facility was moved, as required by NYSEG, at a cost of \$1400, \$1000 under budget.

Hannah reported that she will be taking over the hiring of lifeguards because Martha Levites will no longer be handling it. Drew will assist.

Barn:

Mike reported on the current status of the Barn restoration work. It was the consensus of the Board to order all of the wood for both the front and west side of the Barn, whether the total Barn work is done all at once or in stages. Paul moved, seconded by Ron, to proceed with the purchase of the hemlock that was shown to the Board at the last Board meeting. Passed unanimously.

Lake:

Dan had no report.

Roads:

Fred reported that the Town has been cleaning the catch basins and blowing leaves off the roads. He again urged individuals to call the Highway Department about problems in front of their properties.

Sales & Legal:

Jeremy reported that the Penzero property at 43 Main Street has been taken off the market. It was the consensus of the Board to have the property line between the Main Street well property and 39 Main Street surveyed and permanent markers installed at the ends of the line for future reference.

The Board briefly discussed the rental of Bank owned properties in the community. At present there is one such instance.

Water:

Ron reported that the water is still flowing.

Social:

Elliot reported that he and Lisette Myers will be co-chairing the committee. He asked that community members contribute ideas for social events

Environment:

Chris reported that he is working on getting bids for the tree removal work outlined at previous meetings. Drew suggested that it may be possible to either hire directly, or contract for tree work on a daily basis, rather than paying by the tree. Chris, Mike, and Drew will look into this.

Communications:

Patrick spoke about putting some items of interest to community members on a Google Drive.

Maintenance:

Drew stated that the water for the Barn and the Teen Center has been turned off for the Winter.

Other business:

Rina raised the concept of purchasing oil, propane, etc. on a group basis. Due to the work involved in setting up and maintaining such groups it was decided not to pursue the idea.

Good and Welfare:

Rina stated that the Social for the purpose of introducing "newcomers" to the community, which was organized by Martha Levites, and was held in the Teen Center last Sunday, was quite successful. The Board wishes to thank Martha for all her effort in this endeavor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM. Respectfully submitted: Dan Fast, Secretary

**GBCA Board Minutes December 9, 2018**

Present:

Rina Slavin: President, Ron Arnstein: Vice President, Paul Stewart-Stand: Treasurer, Dan Fast: Secretary, Mike Brown, Gerry Sircus, Fred Margolies, Ben Goldner, Drew Orr, Chris Broberg, Carol Nordgren, Hannah Yates, Patrick dePaula,

Absent: Jeremy Metz

Meeting called to order at 9:35 AM by Rina Slavin: President.

1- Minutes:

The minutes of 11/11/18 Regular Board meeting were read, and accepted as read.

2- Financial:

The current financial report, as of 12/1/18 was given by Paul:

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| M&T Bank                    | \$ 67,041  |
| M&T Bank (Scholarship Fund) | \$ 1,021   |
| M&T Camp Account            | \$ 10,554 (includes \$10,000 Camp reserve)         |
| M&T Water Capitol           | \$ 39,826 (includes \$7,800 Water Operator salary) |
| M&T Capitol Improvement     | \$130,917  |
| Total                       | \$249,360  |

There are currently 3 members in arrears as of 12/1/18, with 3 members on payment plans for 2018. The members in arrears are: Apter, Burgun, and Rios. Liens are in place on Apter and Rios properties.

Paul noted that he has sent letters to Nuza and Halpert apprising them of the removal of the Summer Property designation, and the corresponding increase in community charges.

Paul will look into waiting until March of the coming year before updating liens in order to save legal costs.

3- Committee Reports:

Camp:

Rina stated that the Board and the community at large need to consider the role of the Camp in the community: is it an integral part of the community, similar in concept to the social committee, or is it a separate entity, which must be totally self supporting. Camp committee representatives are meeting with the Finance committee this afternoon to finalize cost accounting for this past year. With a better understanding of the financial picture the Board will take this matter up at the next (January, 2019) Board meeting.

Beach:

Hannah reported that she met with last year's Waterfront Director to begin planning the hiring of lifeguards for next season.

Barn:

Mike reported that Eric Stand received a photo of the proposed hemlock from the wood mill that does not agree with the quality of the specifications and the sample that was originally supplied, and that Eric is working to fix the problem with the mill. The project is on hold pending the outcome.

Mike also reported that Chris Reitsch will be holding a tag sale in the Barn in March.

Roads:

Fred reported that the Town scraped the roads recently, but did not address the problem of the gullies at the sides of the roads in many places. He again urged individuals to call the Highway Department about problems in front of their properties.

Social:

Elliot reported that the committee had a good meeting last month and that a number of events are under consideration: a theater night with Albi Gorn; a one woman show; The Bat; a band night. The survey passed out at the last Banquet garnered few replies and the committee is considering ways get a better survey response from the community. On folk dancing: there were requests for more instruction.

Road 4:

Gerry stated that the electronic edition is going out tomorrow, but the print edition will be mailed in one or two weeks. He again urged people to get the electronic version. We still are mailing about 70 copies of the print edition.

Water:

Ron reported that the Branch Street well pump motor, which was under warranty, failed and was replaced. However the wiring to the pump, being old and several times repaired, was replaced, along with the well pump controller. The total cost for the wire, control and labor will be approximately \$3,000. Ron also stated that the 3 year water test, for which funds are set aside, would be completed in the near future.

Environment:

Chris Stated that the vines are somewhat dormant now, although poison ivy was still active. He stated that the best way to really get rid of the vines is to pull them out, rather than cutting them back.

Communications:

Patrick stated that he is working on a survey to be emailed to people in the Colony.

Maintenance:

Drew stated that the general Fall shutdowns have been completed.

Other business:

Rina raised the concept of purchasing oil, propane. etc. on a group basis. Due to the work involved in setting up and maintaining such groups it was decided not to pursue the idea.

Good and Welfare:

Carol asked that if people know of the passing or illness of someone they should let her know. Lola Metz and Shura Saul are in hospice care.

Meeting adjourned 10:55 AM. Respectfully submitted: Dan Fast, Secretary

**GBCA Board Minutes January 13, 2019**

Present:

Rina Slavin: President, Ron Arnstein: Vice President, Paul Stewart-Stand: Treasurer, Dan Fast: Secretary, Mike Brown, Gerry Sircus, Ben Goldner, Drew Orr, Chris Broberg, Carol Nordgren, , Hannah Yates, Patrick dePaula,

Absent: Jeremy Metz, Fred Margolies

Meeting called to order at 9:35 AM by Rina Slavin: President.

1- Minutes:

The minutes of 12/9/18 Regular Board meeting were read, and accepted as read.

2- Financial:

The current financial report, as of 1/1/19 was given by Paul:

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| M&T Bank                | \$ 13,763                                    |
| M&T Camp Account        | \$ 10,802 (includes \$10,00 Camp reserve)    |
| M&T Water Capitol       | \$ 43,680                                    |
| M&T Capitol Improvement | \$178,476 (includes \$1021 Scholarship Fund) |
| Total                   | \$246,721                                    |

There are currently 3 members in arrears as of 1/1/19. The members in arrears are: Apter, Burgun, and Rios. Liens are in place on Apter and Rios properties.

Paul stated that he is still in the process of getting things switched over from our former Treasurer to himself. He rolled the Scholarship account into the Capitol Improvement account.

Paul pointed out that the inflation rate of 3% is far greater than what M&T Bank is paying on our accounts, and that the Finance committee is looking into other options, including changing banks.

Paul stated that the tree work went over the budgeted amount by \$2000. Patrick moved, seconded by Mike, to approve the extra \$2000 for the tree work. Passed unanimously. Mike pointed out that the reason for the increase was that many more trees were removed than originally marked.

### 3- Committee Reports:

#### Camp:

Ben and Rina reported that in Colony tuition would be increased by a small amount; the committee is looking into other training in CPR and first aid for the staff because last year's trainer made mistakes; obtaining the use of new hiking trails; finding and setting up new campsites. Billy Yalowitz has volunteered to do music instruction and Eric Stand has volunteered to teach how to construct knock hockey games.

#### Beach:

Hannah reported that the committee is getting information and quotes on new play equipment for the beach, and is discussing the installation of new silt fencing.

#### Barn:

Mike reported that there has been no change in the situation due to the wood mill being shut down for the holidays.

#### Social:

Elliot reported that the committee has set up the July schedule and part of the August schedule. Jim Gold will be returning for 5 nights of folk dancing, and the committee is working on getting coverage for the other nights. The committee has been discussing the concept of a community wide tag sale, to be held at member's homes on the same day, rather than everyone bringing their stuff to the Barn.

#### Road 4:

Gerry called for material and will put a note into coming issues to the effect that grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and cousins of members will be accepted to the Camp at the in-Colony rate.

#### Water::

Ron reported that testing costs are continually rising, particularly for the 3 year testing. He stated that throughout the state, where a system has more than one well, samples are taken from both and consolidated by the testing agency, with a single test being performed. In Westchester 2 separate tests, one for each well, have previously been done, resulting in double the cost. Ron has contacted the BOH inspector, and is hoping that he will agree to follow accepted state procedure. This will save the community a tidy sum.

#### Environment:

Chris distributed information on the Bedford Hills recycling and composting programs. He is looking into getting Lewisboro to set up a similar program.

#### Communications:

Patrick stated that he is working on a more complete system of electronic notification for the community.

#### Maintenance:

Drew stated that the general Fall shutdowns have been completed.

Lake and Maintenance committees had no reports. Sales & Legal and Road committees were not reported on due to liaisons not being present.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM. Respectfully submitted: Dan Fast, Secretary