# Deerpark Diary

Town of Deerpark 1863 School House Museum

Town of Deerpark Historian, P. O. Box 621, Huguenot, New York 12746 www.1863schoolhouse.org

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### We are History

We live in historic times--we just don't realize it because we are right in the middle of it. In the future, people will look back at this time with interest to see how we functioned and the things we did. We are their history.

Because of this difficult time, everything we do is different. We look at old photos to see what our grandparents and parents did.



We marvel at the games they played as children, such as tiddlywinks, jacks or bean bag toss. Just as we find such things interesting, future generations will be interested in

With these thoughts, the New York Historian in Albany has requested that all municipal and county historians publish a prepared COVID-19 Survey in order to record our personal stories and its effects on our society and personal lives.

what we do today.

As Town of Deerpark historian I have copied the survey for our local history archives.



Amuse Yourself With One of the

Player Pianos We Sell for One Hundred Dollars Less Than Same Grade Offered Elsewhere

This survey can be down-loaded from the Deerpark Museum website www.1863schoolhouse.org from the Home page by clicking on the blue link. It is a Word document which is easily completed. Answer as many of the questions you choose.



Upon completion return it to nschadt@townofdeer-park.org. I will pass the surveys on to Albany to become part of New York State history.

Remember that we are the history of the future.

Thank you for your participation. *Norma Schadt*, Town Historian

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### A Short History of COVID-19

This is a short timeline about COVID-!9. Information is taken from newspaper reports.

Starting during the second week of March 2020 logovernments, schools and community organizations closed in compliance with Governor Cuomo's mandates. Local communities rallied asking for (and receiving) donations to provide breakfast and lunch for hungry children. Distillers started producing hand sanitizers. Local restaurants prepared takeout menus and so much more. People supported local businesses by purchasing gift cards and supporting however possible.

#### **Timeline**

November 17, 2019 -First case reported in China media December, 2019 --First known patient experiences symptoms December 31, 2019--China notifies the World Health Organization of an outbreak in Wuhan, China

January 7, 2020 The virus was given the name 2019-nCoV January 11, 2020--First death reported

**January 13, 2020-**First death reported outside of China

January 30, 2020 The World Health Organization declares an international public healthy emergency

**February 11, 2020** The disease is officially named CO-VID19 (**Co**rona**vi**rus **d**isease 20**19**)

**February 29, 2020** First death in USA (Washington State)

March 1, 2020 NY confirms first positive case

March 7, 2020 Governor Cuomo declares a state of emergency

March 11, 2020--Coronavirus is declared a pandemic

March 13, 2020-- President Trump declares a national emergency. First death in NY

March 16, 2020--Governor Cuomo closed schools for two weeks with possible extensions Announced that all non-mandatory jobs reduce to 50% staffing

March 19, 2020- Governor Cuomo announces 75% of workforce must stay and/or work from home.

March 22, 2020--Governor Cuomo announces stay at home order.

March 2020--Federal government passes \$2trillion dollar bailout package

March 25, 2020--NYS projects needs for 140,000 beds, 30,000 ventilators, all hospitals must increase at least 50% more beds

May 1, 2020 -- Governor Cuomo closed schools for the rest of the school year

As of June 14, 2020--7.83 million cases of COVID-19 have been reported in 188 countries and territories as well as 431,000 deaths.

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Secretary 1919

## 100 Years Ago

The Spanish flu, also known as the 1918 flu pandemic, was an unusually deadly influenza pandemic caused by N1H1 influenza A virus. Lasting about 15 months from spring 1918 to early summer 1919. It infected 500 million people. The death toll may have been anything from 17 million to 50 million, making it one of the deadliest pandemics in human history

The first observations of

illness and mortality were documented in the US (Fort Riley, Kansas as well as in NYC). Because of WW I France, Germany and England censored their early reports to maintain morale. Neutral Spain, noted their cases of the influenza which created a false impression of Spain as being especially hard hit. This gave rise to the "Spanish" Flu. Data is inadequate to identify with certainty the pandemic's geographic origin.

This influenza pandemic had a particularly high mortality rate for young adults. The virus was particularly deadly because it triggers a cytokine storm, which ravages the stronger immune system of young adults.

The 1918 Spanish flu was the first of two pandemics caused by H1N1 influenza A virus; the second was the 2009 swine flu pandemic. Source Wikipedia

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## HOW TO AVOID INVLUENZA

Doctor Says to Cut Out Fruits,
Sweets and All Fried Foods
Union Gazette
February 3, 1919
"Here are some of Doctor de
Lue's influenza pointers:
Influenza bacilus locates most
readily in rheumatic people. Acids in the system cause colds.
Chocoloate that we give our
soldiers makes acid and acid
serves as food for the influenza
bacilli. Boiled rice is a better ration than chocolate."



Make-Shift Emegency Hospital

1918

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## DRAFT CALL CANCELLED BECAUSE OF INFLUENZA

Port Jervis Union September 27. 1918 Page 5

"Washington, Sept. 27--Because of the epidemics of Spanish Influenza to army camps, Provost Marsha General Crowder has cancelled calls for the entrainment between October 7 and 12 of 142,000 draft registrants.

"During the twenty-four hours ending at noon Thursday 6,139 new cases of influenza in army camps had been reported to the office of the surgeon general of the army. One hundred and seventy deaths, resulted chiefly from pneumonia following influenza and 723 new cases of pneumonia also were reported.

"'The total number of cases of influenza in all camps was placed at 35,145,with 2,035 cases of pneumonia. One out of every four men at Camp Devena, Massachusetts has contracted influenza."

## DOCTORS ARE VERY BUSY NOW

NO INDICATIONS THAT EPIDEMIC HAS SUBSIDED Evening Gazette October 14, 1918

"The grip epidemic has not subsided any and if anything there is an increase in the number of cases. The doctors are receiving many calls and the most of them are at the homes of the sick.

"People are either too sick to come out or they are taking the good advice that has been given out the last two weeks and are promptly going to bed at the first symptoms.

"The police department was busy yesterday posting the warnings of influenza issued by the health department. Many places are also posting anti-spitting signs.

Nurses in Boston



Spitting on the floors of stores and shops and other places is a filthy and dangerous habit, and one of the means by which this epidemic is spread. Sneezing and coughing in the air are other dangerous practices.

"Two deaths have already occurred in Port Jervis from the pneumonia that follows influenza and a number of other people are reported in a serious condition.

"Because of the grip, no services of any kind will be held in the churches tomorrow. Several of the ministers have sent their usual blanks conveying this fact to their respective congregations, but we will conclude them all in this general notice.

"While no congregational services will be held in the Catholic churches they will be open for individual visits.

"The town board of health of the Town of Deerpark met this morning and adopted resolutions closing up all public places in that town. The rules go into effect at six o'clock this evening."





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#### FLU SPREADS IN NEW YORK

Alarming Increase Reported to Authorities Evening Gazette October 14, 1918

New York, Oct. 12--"Reports to the Department of Health yesterday indicate an alarming spread of the Spanish influenza epidemic in Greater New York. New influenza cases numbered 4,293 in the twenty-four hours ending 10:00 a.m. Thursday. Also 324 new cases of pneumonia were reported yesterday and 393 deaths in the five boroughs from influenza and pneumonia.

"Following a report on the situation in the city by the Public Health Committee of the New York Academy of Medicine, calling upon the Department of Health to inaugurate further vigorous measures to Dr. S. S. Goldwater, former Health Commissioner and Superintendent of Mount Sinai Hospital in a statement last evening charges Health Commissioner Copeland with want of prudence in this method of handling the epidemic.

"With yesterday's notable increase here in cases both of Influenza and pneumonia came an estimate, roughly made by Surgeon General Blue of the United States Public Health Service, covering the probable extent of the epidemic. Twenty-five to thirty percent of the population, or one person in every four, Surgeon General Blue estimates may be expected to have influenza."

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2020 Free Public
Art Demonstrations
at the

Deerpark Museum
Check for updates
www.1863schoolhouse.org

**August 25** at 1pm--**Barbara Johnson**--Needlework Art done with yarn.

**September 22** at 1pm-- **Keith Gunderson**--Master Plein Air painter

October 20 at 1pm--Cynthia Harris-Pagano--pastel portrait techniques

These Events are Free and open to the public. You can bring your own supplies and join in.

Questions: Call the Deerpark Museum 845-856-2702 or email Susan Miiller at susanmiiller@yahoo.com