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Heritage Hills Society Information

Address8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589 Website www.hhsociety.org Television......Channel 12

CONTACT INFORMATION - EMAIL

Societysociety@hhsociety.org Activities Office activities@hhsociety.org **CONTACT INFORMATION – TELEPHONE**

Security......276-2592 Bus......276-2877 Society Office276-2908 Library.....276-7655 Activities Office......276-2636 Fitness Center669-5028

Hours of Operation

Activities Center 7 am - 11 pm daily Fitness Center...... 4:30 am - 11 pm daily

Fine Arts Center Group instruction and free time are

scheduled by the Activities Office at 276-2908

Library...... Weekdays 10 am - 3 pm Saturday 10:30 am - 1 pm

Woodcraft Club Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Sat. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Call 276-2908

Bus Service - Operates on Weekdays Only (except holidays)

5:20 to 8:15 am & 2:45 to 4:40 pm

To/from train station only - Reservation required

4:02 to 10:33 pm

Pick-up at train station only – **NO reservation required**

Midday schedule with list of ten possible stops is available in the

Activities Office and online at www.hhsociety.org under General Information, Transportation - Reservation required

UTILITIES CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCIES9-1-1 Verizon 800-922-0204 ConEd 800-752-6633 NYSEG...... 800-572-1131 Water/Sewer Your Condo Mgt. Co. Comcast 866-478-7266

SERVICES & ACTIVITIES FOR SENIORS

TOWN OF SOMERS SENIOR SERVICES

Adult Transportation (accessible/assisted)

Reservations Required - Barbara Taberer- 232-0807

Door-to-door, round trip, for the following:

Various Free Activities at Van Tassell House (exercise, art, games)

Monday & Wednesday exercise/line dancing pick-ups start at 9:45 am, Monday thru Friday other activities pick-ups starts at 10:30 am; return trip starts at 1:30 pm, Current monthly schedule can be picked up at the House; or call 232-0807; or go online to somersny.com, click on Senior Services; or on Facebook go to Somers Senior Services.

Hot Lunch - Monday thru Friday - Suggested contribution: \$2

At Van Tassell House (10:30-11:30 am pick-up) or delivered to shut-ins (meals leave Van Tassell House starting at 11:30 am)

Shopping - Suggested round-trip donation **\$1**

Destination stores vary each week. Pick-ups start at 10:15 am;

drop-off is by 2:43 pm.

Mondays: Shopping Plazas. Fridays: Grocery Stores Medical Appointments - Suggested round-trip donation: \$5

Tuesday thru Thursday, 10 am to 3 pm. Call for details – 232-0807

Somers Library (approximately there for 1 hour)

Alternate Tuesdays - Pick-ups start at 10:15- FREE

OTHER SENIOR SERVICES

Alzheimer's Disease - 212- 263-8088

free information on coping with this disease

RideConnect - 242-7433

Transportation services seven days a week. Call to register.

EPIC - 800-332-3742. NYS Senior Prescription Reduction

My Second Home - Karen Bisignano - 241-0770

Geriatric Day Care Intergenerational Program.

Northern Westchester Hospital Center 666-1200

Volunteer Office: 666-1254

Somers Senior Citizens Club

Events and Trips

Program list available at the Amawalk Fire House

Club meeting and Bingo Every Wednesday at the firehouse Call 232-0807 for transportation assistance

Westchester County Senior Programs and Services

Geri Crisco 813-6300

Referral agency for senior services including legal - 949-1305

Social Services: 995-5889

SERVICES FOR ALL AGES, INCLUDING SENIORS

AA - 949-1200. Info and literature National Council on Alcoholism Adult Protection Services Intake - Natalie Siler 995-2259.

Cancer Care - 800-ACS-2345

Northern Westchester Hospital - 242-8115

Putnam Hospital - 845-279-5711 ext. 4673

The Dominican Sisters - Family Health Service 941-1654

Long- and short-term registered nurses.

Hospice - 666-4228 - Visiting Nurse Association State-certified program providing home health care and emotional support for terminally ill patients and their families

Project Time Out / Jewish Community Services - 761-0600 - Provides in-home respite services matching families with trained sitters/companions. Contact Judy Fink, Coordinator, ext. 340; Carol Kobroff, Respite Specialist, ext. 310

Putnam Hospital Center - 845-279-5711 - Inpatient and outpatient medical surgical care, emergency services, health screenings and community outreach.

Transportation for Cancer Treatments (free):

American Cancer Society Road to Recovery program. 1-800-227-2345

Transportation for Disabled Residents - County Office of Transportation 813-7777 Para-Transit - 995-7272 provides modified vans with ramp for curb-to curb service.

Fare \$5 each way. Medical pre-authorization required. For eligibility call 995-2960.

Private Ambulette Services

Superior Brewster 845-278-6992

CLC Trans 241-0112

Ambulance: Westchester EMS 866-666-9367. Accepts Medicare.

Westchester County Office for the Disabled, includes hearing-defect

Lighthouse Inc. - New York City 212-821-9200. For sight impaired. **Veterans Guide to VA Health Care Benefits -**

VA Hudson Valley Health Care System - 800-269-8749

Monday through Friday 8 am - 4 pm

Visiting Nurse Association of Hudson Valley

666-7616 - 8:30 am - 5 pm - Home care aides nursing, Nutrition consultation

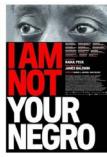
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CONTINUING ED







THREE DOCUMENTARY FILMS

MAIDEN

Tuesday, February 4, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

Maiden is the inspirational, heart-pounding, never give up dream story of how 26-year-old Tracy Edwards became the skipper of the first ever all-female crew to enter the most dangerous sailing competition on earth: the Whitbread Round the World race in 1989.

SEARCHING FOR SUGAR MAN

Tuesday, February 11, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

Searching for Sugar Man is a story about the kindness of strangers: how two South African fans take on the search for Rodriquez, their folk-singing hero from America, whose first album, recorded in the late '60s, was supposed to secure his reputation as the greatest recording artist of his generation. It bombed (in the United States), and the singer disappeared into obscurity.

I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO

Tuesday, February 18, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

In 1979 James Baldwin began working on a book—a personal account of the lives and successive assassinations of three of his close friends: Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Baldwin died in 1987 leaving behind only 30 completed pages. Using Baldwin's own words and a flood of rich archival material, this eloquent film challenges the very definition of what America stands for.

Admission: \$15 for the series; \$10 per individual film. For more information, call Rosetta at 277-5217.

* * *

ON THE COVER: Resident Cheryl Milde captured this month's lovely cover image in January of last year, when we experienced an ice storm resulting in all vegetation being sheathed in ice for three days of single-digit temperatures.

HERITAGE HILLS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Administrator: Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi; Graphic Editor: Annette Bensen Writers/Editors: Terry Clifford, Eric Felderman, Cindy Kennedy, Shirley Kesselman, Karl Milde, Stan Herz Pearlman, Elizabeth Royston, Sue Shea, Ami Stokhamer

SINGLES CLUB

Submitted by Diane Purr

PASTA NIGHT

Thursday, January 16, at 6 pm in the Heritage Room

Come join your friends for homemade food and fun. Bring any game of your choice, mahjong, canasta, rummy, *etc.* \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members. Weather permitting. BYOB.

Please **RSVP no later than January 10**. If you have any questions, call Pat Caruso at 276-2224, or or Olga LaBoy at 276-2646.

* * *



TRIVIA PARTY

Sunday, January 12, at 1 pm in the Activities Center

Come by yourself or as a group. Tables of six become teams to see who has the best trivia knowledge. Light refreshments will be served.

Admission: \$10. Checks should be made out to "Club Shalom" and placed in our mailbox by **January 7**. Payment at the door will be accepted if space is available. If you have questions, call Barbara or Allan at 342-3279.

Club Shalom will have additional programs throughout the winter. Please look for information in future newsletters and emails, and on our flyers.

* * *

WE OOPSED!!!

We erroneously credited the lovely ice storm photo in the Classified Ads section of the December issue to the wrong person. The photographer is Susan Grace, to whom we extend our sincere apologies.

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SOCIETY BOARD MEETING -OWNERS & RESIDENTS WELCOME

Thursday, February 13, at 7:30 pm in the Heritage Room

(There will be no January Society Board meeting.)

All owners are welcome to attend this meeting. At the beginning, owners will have an opportunity to raise matters of concern. If you can't attend the meeting, such matters can be submitted by email to society@hhsociety.org or by mail to Society Board, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. You must provide your name and unit number on written correspondence.

The meeting will also be broadcast live on channel 12 and rebroadcast daily on channel 12 at 7 pm, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 pm.



THE NEWSLETTER WELCOMES ARTICLES FROM HERITAGE HILLS RESIDENTS

If we print your submission, your name will be indicated. We cannot quarantee that every submission will be used, and all submissions are subject to being edited for format, length, acceptability of language, and suitability of content.

Submissions should be in email attachment format (preferably *Word*) or by hand to the Heritage Hills Activities Center or Society

OUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS: HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com.

When Submitting Photos to this Newsletter



If you take a picture using your phone instead of a camera, please use the highest resolution.

Unless it's a scenic vista, concentrate on faces. Most photographs are taken from too far away, and when the image is cropped, the faces will be blurred. Get closer.

Please do not incorporate art or a photo in a Word file. Attach it and Word files to emails as separate items.

Happy New Year

TRAVEL CLUB

Submitted by Elaine Soliman

OGUNQUIT MAINE

Tuesday, May 26 to Thursday, May 28, 2020

Enjoy two nights at The Meadomere Resort, cen-



trally located within walking distance to Ogunquit village, Perkins Cove, and Ogunquit Beach. A welcome dinner marks our arrival, and the next day we will experience a driving tour of Kennebunkport and have free time to explore. We end our first full day with a clam bake. Our trip would not be complete without a cruise along the southern coast of Maine on Day 3 before returning to Heritage Hills. Departs Lake Lodge at 8 am, returning at approximately 6 pm.

Cost of \$499 double, \$599 single, includes transportation, two nights' accommodations, two breakfasts and two dinners, tour guide, and guide and driver gratuities. \$150 deposit due by March 3. Make checks payable to "Heritage Travel Club." Final payment will be due April 7. For reservations, call Elaine at 617-9111.

* * *

Yorktown Funeral Home

"Where the Difference Is in the Caring"

Your Questions Answered...

O: How can I adapt my holiday traditions to celebrate the life of my loved one?



Anthony Guarino Funeral Director

A: Some of the many ways to consider include offering a toast in their honor before dinner, paying a visit to their favorite spot in town, or donating an act of charity in their name. Seek the support of others as you try new ways to keep your loved one's memory alive during this special time of year.







Yorktown Funeral Home

945 East Main Street Shrub Oak, NY 10588

Easily accessible to Taconic Pkwy & Route 6; Modern Facility. (914) 962-0700 Yorktownfh.com Large private parking

Family Owned and Managed

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CA New Kind of Memory Care is Coming to Your Neighborhood

If you find yourself helping a family member with more and more of the things they used to do for themselves, let us help!

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WELCOME CENTER: 520 North State Road, Suite 101, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510 **COMMUNITY LOCATION:** 553 North State Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510



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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES & EVENTS
Produced by the Activities Office
Phone: 276-2636 or go to activities@hhsociety.org

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE FOR ACTIVITIES, CLASS-ES AND CLUBS

- 1. Make the check payable to the instructor or club. Include your telephone number on the check.
- 2. For class registration, bring your check to the Activities Office or leave it in the Activities mailbox.
- 3. For individual Club activities, leave your check in the appropriate Club mailbox.
- 4. For information where a telephone number is not provided, call 276-2636.

DETAILED FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE ACTIVITIES CENTER.

REMINDER: ALL EVENTS AND CLASSES ARE FOR HERITAGE HILLS RESIDENTS AND THEIR GUESTS ONLY.

We recommend that all residents with email register on our website. Updated information and alerts are sent via our website on a regular basis. Go to www.hhsociety.org and click on "log in request." Fill in all the fields, and a user name and password will be sent to you. Our website is full of valuable and useful information.

SPECIAL Activities & Events

Detailed information about the following SPECIAL Activities & Events may be found in the COMING EVENTS section of this issue and/or on flyers and posters at the Activities Center.

CLUB SHALOM Trivia Party

Sunday January 12 at 1 pm in the Activities Center Admission: \$10. Payment at the door will be accepted only if space is available. For information or questions call Barbara or Allen at 342-3279.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Documentary Film Series

Tuesdays, February 4, 11, and 18, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room Admission: \$10 for series; \$5 per individual lecture For information, call Rosetta at 277-5217

DANCE—MONTHLY SOCIAL

Friday, January 3.

For information, call Dorothy at 276-2894.

Save The Date: Friday, February 7.

See flyers in the Activities Center for details.

SINGLES CLUB

Pasta and games of your choice

Thursday, January 16, at 6 pm in the Heritage Room, weather permitting.

\$12 for members, \$15 for non-members. BYOB

Save The Date: February 20

TRAVEL CLUB

Flyers for all trips are available in Activities Office.

Norwegian Coastal Voyage

Trip dates: September 5 to 16

For information, call Jean at 276-3379.

Ogunquit Maine

Trip Dates: May 26 to 28

For more information, call Elaine 617-9111.

WOMEN'S CLUB

Wine & Cheese Party

February 12

Members only. Details to follow.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

March 11

Details to follow.

RECURRING Activities

The activity takes place at the Activities Center unless otherwise indicated. (See "Registration Procedure" at the beginning of this section, or call 276-2636.)

ARTS & CRAFTS:

Gushing With Paint: With Fran Schultzberg. Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm, and Thursdays from 10 am to noon. Fee of \$125 includes materials for four paintings in this new art technique. Space is limited. For information, contact Fran at 806-6696 and leave a message.

Needlecraft Club: Charitable needlecraft group meets Wednesdays at 12:30 pm in the Activities Center Game Room.

All skill levels welcome.

Paint & Sip: With Judika Lieberman. Once a month at 7 pm in Lake Lodge. Look for flyers and email blasts. \$40. All paint supplies included. BYOB. For information, call Judika at 438-6750.

Photo Club: Second Tuesday of the month at 3:30 pm in Room 2 of the Activities Center. For more information, call John at 925-277-3955.

Sketch Workshop: Wednesdays at 9:30 am. No fee. Beginners welcome. For information call Richard at 617-9011.

Silk Fabric Painting: Mondays and/or Thursdays at 10 am. Fee \$120. Must sign up for a full 4-week session. Space is limited. For information, contact Evey at 276-0737, or email her at *eveymusart@comcast.net*.

ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

Watercolor Class—All Levels: With Lynn Shulman. Mondays from 9:30 am to noon. Fee: \$60 for a 4-week session.

Wood & Stone & Clay Sculpture Classes:

With Ron Mineo on Mondays at 2:30 pm. \$120 for 5 weeks. With Debra Schaffer on Thursdays at 9 am. Drop in any Thursday between 9 am and noon for a free, hands-on demonstration. Fee: \$120 for 6 weeks. For information, call Debra at 203-244-5922.

Woodcraft Club: The shop is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Limited amount of scrap wood and kindling available.

Writer's Workshop: The Fee is \$150 per six-week session. The class meets every Monday at 1 pm and Tuesday at 10 am in Lake Lodge. Rolling admission. Sign up in the Activities Office.

AARP SMART DRIVING COURSE

2020 Dates TBA. Price: \$20 for AARP Members, \$25 for Non-AARP Members. Make check payable to AARP and leave it in the AARP mailbox. **Indicate your name, phone number, and the class date** when registering with check. Bring lunch. You will only be contacted if the class you selected is full. Please remember to bring your AARP card on the day of the class

CIAO ITALIA

The 2020 Ciao Italia Membership Application form will be mailed to all enrolled members. Membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Additional application forms will be available outside the Activities Office.

CULINARY CLUB

Monthly dinner held on a Wednesday during each month at 6 pm. Contact Susan at 276-3176.

MUSICAL NOTES FROM THE CONCERT SOCIETY

What's Coming Up For 2020? Four Concerts on Sundays at 3 pm in the Heritage Room. See a special offer tor new subscribers and renewals on our subscription form available at the Activities Center.

DANCING

Line Dancing: Fridays at 11 am. Join in at any time. No Fee. **Square Dancing**: Sundays at 7 pm. No partners needed.

ENERGIZE PROGRAM

Need to feel more comfortable in your own home? Wouldn't it be nice to pay a lower electricity bill? Here's a way to make your condo unit more energy efficient. Heritage Hills, in collaboration with EnergizeNY and the Town of Somers Energy & Environment Committee, is offering personalized assistance in applying for a FREE comprehensive assessment of your home. No prior registration needed, just walk-in. For information, call Flo (914) 276-4845.

EXERCISE: Please get your checks in ASAP for all classes to ensure they will run.

Exercise: With Lori Barr. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 am. Fee: \$8 per class, please register in advance.

Hikers & Walkers: Weekly hikes from September to June. Schedule is available at the Activities Center or at *hhsociety.org*.

Move & Groove Line Dance: Tuesdays at 12:30 pm with Theresa. Fee: \$24 to \$40 per session. See flyer.

Pilates Morning Class: With Tracey. Mondays at 9 am and Wednesdays at 10 am in Lake Lodge's upper level. Fee: \$40 per month for 4-week session.

Strengthen & Stretch Classes

With Ingrid Rodgers. Mondays at 10:30 am. Fee: \$30 per month. See flyer.

With Theresa. Saturdays at 8:30 am. Fee: \$24 to \$30 per month. See flyer.

Saturdays with Joe: Saturdays at 9 am at Lake Lodge. Fees: \$10 per class, \$40 per month. Most classes are 60 to 75 minutes long. Tai Chi: With Ellen Hollenbeck. Tuesdays at 11:15 am. Fee: \$60 for 4 weeks.

Video Aerobics: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 am in the Gym. No fee.

YOGA

Chair Yoga with Satish: Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 am in Lake Lodge. Fee: \$5 per class.

Classes with Cheryl Aiello:

Beginner/Intermediate Yoga: Mondays 10:15 to 11:30 am in Lake Lodge's upper level. Fee: \$15 per class.

Yoga-Chi: Thursdays at 4 pm in the Activities Center.

Fee: \$12 per class.

TaiJiFit: Tuesdays at 4:15 pm in Lake Lodge's upper level. \$9 per class.

Yoga Class with Joe: Mondays at 5 pm at Lake Lodge. Fees: \$10 per class/\$40 per month. Most classes are 60 to 75 minutes long.

Yoga lyengar Classes with Kate Graham—All classes held in Lake Lodge's upper level. See flyer for full schedule:

General lyengar: Mondays at 12 noon. Fee: \$12 per class.

Chair Yoga: Mondays at 1:45. Fee: \$12 per class.

General lyengar: Tuesday at 11:30 am. Fee: \$12 per class. Gentle Back-Care Yoga: Fridays at 10:30 am. Fee: \$12 per class.

Zumba with Theresa:

For Everyone: Wednesdays at 4:45 pm. Fee: \$24 to \$40 per month. See flyer.

Gold: Fridays at 10:30 am. Fee: \$24 to \$40 per month. See flyer.

FAMILY NETWORK GROUP

Meets for family-oriented events, days and evenings. Go to *Facebook. com* to join the group "heritage hills family network"

FUN & GAMES

Billiards: Drop-in games on Thursdays at 1:30 pm.

Bocce: April through October: Wednesdays at 1 pm and Saturdays at 9:30 am.

Bowling League: Tuesdays at 12:45 pm at Jefferson Valley Lanes on Hill Boulevard.

Bridge—Duplicate: Mondays at 12:30 pm, Tuesdays at 7 pm, Thursdays at 12:30 pm.

Bridge Lessons: Lessons will resume in the Spring.

Bridge—Casual: Mondays and Thursdays at 1 pm. All are welcome.

Bridge the Gap Bridge: Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 pm.

ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

Bridge—High Scorers: A casual game. Wednesdays at 1 pm at Lake Lodge.

Mah Jongg Club: Mondays at noon, and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 am at Lake Lodge. Wednesdays at 1 pm and Fridays at 7 pm at the Activities Center. Not accepting new members at this time for Tuesday and Thursday. Call Rebecca Fiero 669-5460 for waitlist.

Pickleball: Mondays from 2 to 5 pm, Thursdays from 1 to 5 pm, and Saturdays from noon to 3 pm. Level 2 play: Wednesdays from 6:45 to 9 pm. Location: Fitness Center Gym. Sneakers required. Platform Tennis Court 1 is also available for Pickleball.

Ping Pong Group: Thursdays at 10 am. Open to all residents. **Playtime**: Games, cards, and socializing. Mondays at 1 pm.

Scrabble: Thursdays at 1 pm in the Library.

Shuffleboard: October through March on Wednesdays, from 1 to 3 pm, and on Saturdays, from 9:30 am to noon.

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP

Thursdays at 10 am in Lake Lodge Room 1. Come learn and practice speaking French. *Venez causer avec nous*.

GOLF:

EAST HILL MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

Since 1989 the East Hill Men's Golf Association has provided a 9-hole venue for friendly, sociable, and light golf competition at Heritage Hills on Wednesday and Friday mornings from April thru November. Stroke play on Wednesdays and various formats on Fridays at the Somers National Golf Course. Please pick up a membership application in the Activities Center mail slot or contact Bob Kenney, Membership Chairman, at 617-9884 or rlkret@aol.com.

HERITAGE HILLS WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

A friendly, vibrant group of women who enjoy a weekly 9-hole round of golf on Tuesdays at 9 am from April through October at Somers National Golf Course. Contact Janet by email at *jparke27@comcast.net* or by telephone at 277-5460 for more information.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Blood Pressure Readings: The second Friday of each month from 10 to 11:30 am in the Activities Center.

File of Life Packets are used to provide essential information in an emergency situation, and are available in the Activities Office, Security Office, and Society Office.

Spousal Bereavement Support Group

Every first and third Tuesday of the month from 2 to 3:30 pm in the Game Room.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILM CLUB

Films will resume Thursday, April 23, with *The Biggest Little Farm*. All films start at 7 pm at the Activities Center. Facilitator for all films is Bill Costanzo. Annual Membership is \$20 for all films. Make your check payable to the "Ind. Film Club." And place it in the club mailbox or bring it to the door on the night of the film (checks only).

LIBRARY

Monday through from Friday 10 am to 3 pm. Saturday from 10:30 am to 1 pm. Free Children's Book Exchange available all day, every day in the corridor outside of the library.

MORNING DISCUSSION

Mondays at 9:30 am. Discussion group on current event topics. No fee.

NEWCOMERS COUPLES CLUB

Contact us at hhnewcomerscouplesclub@gmail.com.

RAINBOW CONNECTION

First Thursday of the month, from 7 to 9 pm in Lake Lodge. A relaxed, social environment for LGBT residents as well as their families, friends, and neighbors. For more information, email us at hhillsrainbow@gmail.com.

SHAKESPEARE READING AND DISCUSSION GROUP

Open reading of Shakespeare each Tuesday at 10 am.

TEN-A-MEN

Wednesdays at 10 am. Coffee, bagels, rolls, *etc*. Discussion and conversation, sometimes controversial. Occasionally there are guest speakers.

TENNIS

Friday evening Round Robin at Courts 1, 2, and 3 at 6:30 pm thru November 17. Doubles games at all levels of play. For information, call Barry at 617-9259. For information about the Tennis Committee, call Jan at 276-2106. Reminder: all tennis reservations are made via our website at *hhsociety.org*.

VETERANS CLUB

Meets quarterly—at 2 pm in Room 2/3 of the Activities enter. For more information, call Larry at 277-4057.

VISUAL ARTS: HISTORY OF ART

Resumes on Friday, January 3. For further information call 909-0959.

WEIGHT WATCHERS GROUP

Two plans, lower prices: *Digital* or *Digital plus Workshops*. *Digital* has been reduced to \$18 per month and *Digital plus Workshops* is now \$40 per month. Visit *wellness.weightwatchers.com* and enter Employer ID: 59693. For questions or assistance registering contact the Weight Watchers Wellness Hotline at 866-204-2885.

YIDDISH CONVERSATION CLASS

If you're interested in Yiddish classes, please contact Gilda Simpkin at 203-219-0589 to organize a convenient time for the group to meet.



WHAT'S GOING ON

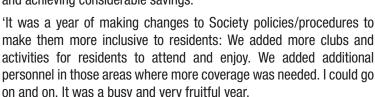
Text and photo by Sue Shea

From Society President Dom Rubino:

"2019 was a year of fast forward motion. We moved quickly on the Maintenance Yard, to our advantage: Took control and saved money on the busses. Turned the yard into achieving some profits to offset the monthly debt.

'It was a year of major improvements, including major road repairs, the culvert redo at the 3-way stop, and new gas pumps at the Maintenance Yard, just to name a few.

'It was a year of carefully analyzing costs and achieving considerable savings.



Finally, for 2019 I am very thankful to the members of the Society Board, all the Committee Heads and their members...actually to everyone who gave their talent and time in 2019, working for the benefit of our approximately 4900 residents.

'For 2020, we are looking forward to a year of slower forward motion—less major projects, less road paving—but a year of listening to our residents, their cares and comments, and acting on items that can and will be changed for the benefit of our Community.

'Also, in 2020 we will continue to focus on items of common interest for our community in the hopes that our lead can make a difference when bringing forward a cause we all care about."

Around Heritage Hills

All that excavation equipment and digging on West Hill Drive belongs to contractors for NYSEG as they continue to replace our primary cables. It is a 5- to 10-year project and ultimately all underground cables will be replaced.

By press time the work going on at the culvert at the bottom of West Hill Drive will be completed. Work was slowed down by inclement weather.

The Society has removed the temporary speed humps on Heritage Hills Drive that were by Condo 4 and may offer them for sale. Installation of permanent asphalt speed humps has been included in the 2020 Society budget (which is on page 11 of this issue).

The Fitness Center tapered roof replacement is complete. This should eliminate problems of leaking beneath snow and ice.



Are solar lights permittzed by our walks? That depends on each Condo Association's rules. In some, yes, if they are not placed in the edging of the pathway grass, which will interfere with the cutting of the grass and snow removal. Also, my information indicates they really don't provide much light.

From resident Kathleen Knowles who spends two months every spring in Paris, when asked whether she had experienced transit strikes in Paris, vis-á-vis the current one, her answer was "It's a way of life in France!"

Five Heritage Hills residents were honored to be inducted into the Westchester County Senior Hall of Fame for those who show the importance of people giving back to their communities and to each other. See Jack Mattis's feature article on page 16 of this issue.

In Town

The Chase bank on Route 202 has been sold.

The former DiNardo farm property (current barber shop and consignment shop) is up for sale.

Somers Towne Centre

White Plains Hospital Physician Associates (WPHPA) is close to home for our residents in Somers. Their newly renovated space provides ample onsite parking. It is open from 9 am to 5 pm **weekdays only**. It offers care in pediatrics, laryngology, and orthopedics, with orthopedic pain management and physiatry to come. I suggest calling ahead to see exactly what specialist is present on any given day.

Raymond Opticians is moving from itis current location to the space next to Houlihan Lawrence Real Estate.

A new veterinary office is opening in the lower level of the building directly across from CVS (on your left as you turn right when entering the shopping center).

Burke Rehabilitation is expanding into the former yogurt shop's space.

Around Our Area

The 700-acre former IBM property is now under development for the Bluestone Peak Academy. Of the four parcels of land, two will be for the Academy and the other two will remain untouched.

Mt. Kisco Consultant Says Traffic to Improve from ShopRite Move (from Examiner Media, By Ed Perratore):

Diamond Properties' plan for ShopRite to move to 333 N. Bedford Rd. in Mount Kisco received a boost last week after the village's traffic consultant largely concurred with the results of the applicant's traffic study. Plans call for the supermarket to move from Bedford Hills to an 85,652-square-foot space at The Park.



SOCIETY NEWS

PROPER 9-1-1 LOCATION IDENTIFICATION

When reporting an emergency using 9-1-1, please indicate the "Hill" of the location—"Heritage Hills East Hill" or "Heritage Hills West Hill." Also, if you live on a named road, do not use the road's name as an identifier. That is, "807B Heritage Hills West Hill" is okay. "807B Sycamore Circle West Hill" is not okay. That's because there are some roads in Somers outside of Heritage Hills that have names similar to some road names here.

SHUTTLE BUS REMINDER

All persons on board our shuttle buses are required to use a seat belt at all times when the bus is in motion.

SECURITY REPORT

During the month of November, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 340 calls regarding the following matters:

Medical	67
Security	178 (fire/carbon dioxide alarms, open garage doors, other security concerns)
Service	84 (including 54 lift assists, 17 persons locked out, and 13 welfare checks)

Maintenance..... 2 (water main breaks)

Car Accidents 5 (4 in the Activities Center parking lot,

1 at the 3-way stop)

Parking Violations 4 (in handicapped spaces, fire lanes, A roads, or B roads)

January through November, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 3,684 calls.

2020 SOCIETY BUDGET

Owners realized a fee increase of 2.95% for 2020. A more detailed explanation of the below Budget can be found in the minutes of the November 18 Society Board meeting on the Society website.

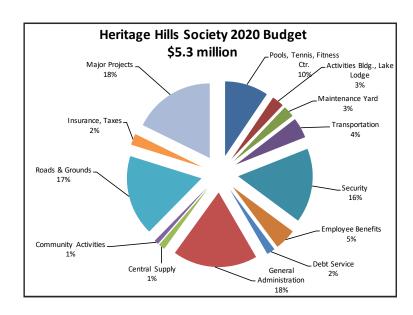
Total:	\$ 5,342,952.00	
Major Projects	\$ 947,612.00	17.7%
Insurance, Taxes	\$ 130,500.00	2.4%
Roads & Grounds	\$ 933,000.00	17.5%
Community Activities	\$ 51,900.00	1.0%
Central Supply	\$ 75,000.00	1.4%
General Administration	\$ 980,900.00	18.4%
Debt Service	\$ 97,000.00	1.8%
Employee Benefits	\$ 249,150.00	4.7%
Security	\$ 863,000.00	16.2%
Transportation	\$ 237,100.00	4.4%
Maintenance Yard	\$ 131,690.00	2.5%
Activities Bldg., Lake Lodge	\$ 140,000.00	2.6%
Pools, Tennis, Fitness Ctr.	\$ 506,100.00	9.5%

2020 SOCIETY MEETING SCHEDULE

All owners are welcome to attend and address matters of concern at the Board and Annual Meetings. On Candidates Night, owners can question the candidates running for Board positions. If you can't attend a meeting, matters of concern can be submitted by email to *society@hhsociety.org* or by mail to Society Board, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. You must provide your name and unit number on written correspondence.

Meetings start promptly and continue until all business matters have been addressed. There will be regular Shuttle Bus service to and from the afternoon meetings (as usual, reservations required). The meetings are broadcast live on channel 12 and rebroadcast daily on channel 12 at 7 pm, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 pm.

Meeting Type	Day, Date	<u>Time</u>	<u>Locatio</u> n
Board	Thursday, February 13	7:30 pm	. Heritage Room
Board	Wednesday, March 18	1:30 pm	.Rooms 2/3
Board	Monday, April 13	1:30 pm	.Rooms 2/3
Candidates			
Night	Thursday, May 14	7:30 pm	.Heritage Room
Board	Wednesday, May 20	1:30 pm	.Rooms 2/3
Board / Annual /			
Election Results	Thursday, June 18	7:30 pm	.Heritage Room
Board	Wednesday, July 22	1:30 pm	.Rooms 2/3
Board	Wednesday, August 19	1:30 pm	.Rooms 2/3
Board	Thursday, September 17	7:30 pm	. Heritage Room
Board	Wednesday, October 21	1:30 pm	.Rooms 2.3
Board	Thursday, November 19	7:30 pm	. Heritage Room
Board	Wednesday, December 16	1:30 pm	. Rooms 23



NOVEMBER COUNCIL OF CONDO PRESIDENTS MEETING

By Terry Clifford

Insurance

Jason Schiciano, President, Levitt-Fuirst Associates, which covers all HH Condos insurance, gave an update on the past two years. In May 2018, an exceptionally strong windstorm damaged units in 15 Condos. Claims in the amount of \$425,000 were paid. Due to our agreement, premiums were not increased in 2019. Premiums will increase an average of 4% for 2020.

In the event of a catastrophic event, Condo insurance covers the outside structure, interior walls up to the paint, and original cabinets and fixtures. Resident personal belongings and upgrades are not covered. Therefore, all residents must have personal insurance to cover their personal belongings, and unit owners must also cover the replacement cost of upgrades.

Comcast

A franchise agreement meeting was held with the Town in November. Encore and Stars channels will be eliminated on December 12. Call 1-800-COMCAST for service issues. **DO NOT** contact committee members for your personal Comcast issues.

Town Codes

The Code Compliance Committee will meet with Tommy Tooma concerning options for attic stairs in the garage. New codes are expected in January 2020.

We look forward to meeting your Condo's President or his/her representative on January 15, 2020 meeting at 7 pm in the Activities Center.



TRAVEL CLUB

Submitted by Elaine Soliman

ANNUAL CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

At year's end, the Travel Club made contributions to the following worthy causes:

Community Center of Northern Westchester.

Guiding Eyes For The Blind

Heritage Hills Library

Putnam Humane Society

The Salvation Army

Somers Volunteer Fire Department



NEWSLETTER NEWS

NEW SECTION—CHILDREN'S FICTION

Starting this month, this new section contains the beginning of Karl Milde's story *Charlie the Choo-Choo*—ideal for parents/grandparents to read to or with children. It will continue each month until Heritage Hills becomes more active in the spring.

COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS?

Comments and suggestions regarding your newsletter's content are always welcome. Send them either via email to *HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com*, or via snail mail to Heritage Hills Newsletter, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589.



IT'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Annual dues payment is due in January for many Heritage Hills clubs. You can find information about clubs' membership requirements in the ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS section of this newsletter as well as at the Activities Office (276-2636), and on the Society website, hhsociety.org.



THE WOMEN'S CLUB

Submitted by Alfreda Savarese

ANNUAL CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Women's Club annual charity contributions were made to the following:

Friends of Karen

Green Chimney

Guiding Eyes For the Blind

Heritage Hills Library

Northern Westchester Community Resource Center

Rosary Hill

The Salvation Army

Somers High School Female 2019 Graduate

Somers Library

Somers Volunteer Fire Department

Women's Resource Center.

We'd like to remind everyone that the \$12 membership is due in January.



Hibrary

SUNDAY MATINEES— MONTHLY DURING THE WINTER



Performance information can be found in email blasts and in the Activities Center.

SCRABBLE

Thursdays at 1 pm in the Library.

HERITAGE HILLS LIBRARY CINEMA

Will resume in the Spring of 2020.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION IN NOVEMBER

The following books are located on the shelves of our NEW BOOKS section:

Newly Published Books

Biography

Cumming, Laura Five Days Gone

Fiction

Choi, Susan Trust Exercise (Winner, 2019 National Book

Award for fiction)

Evaristo, Bernardine. . . . Girl, Woman, Other (Winner, 2019 Booker

Prize)

Morgenstern, Erin The Starless Sea Harris, Robert The Second Sleep

Mystery

Baldacci, David A Minute to Midnight
Evanovich, Janet Twisted Twenty-Six
Kanon, Joseph The Accomplice
Smith, Martin Cruz The Siberian Dilemma

Non-Fiction

Treuer, David The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native

America From 1890 to the Present (Finalist,

2019 National Book Award for non-fiction)

Newly Acquired Books

Fiction

Krauss, Nicole Great House

Miller, Madeline Circe

Moore, Meg Mitchell . . . The Islanders
Steel, Danielle Accidental Heroes

Mystery

Block, Lawrence Hit Me
Grisham, John The Chamber
Lethem, Jonathan . . . The Feral Detective
Patterson, James Texas Ranger
Woods, Stuart Paris Match

Non-Fiction

Millard, Candice Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness,

Medicine and the Murder of a President







FILL THE PANTRY

Submitted by Robert Weinstein

Wednesday, January 1, from 5 to 7 pm

The Somers Volunteer Fire Department is assisting St. Luke's church in its effort to fill their food pantry. Please bring your donations to the Somers Fire House on route 202 across from the main entrance to Heritage Hills on Wednesday, January 1, between the hours of 5 and 7 pm.

* * *

SOMERS LIONS BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, January 11, from 9 am to 3 pm at Somers High School

For detailed information, contact Maddy McCormack by email at *maddymccormick@somerslionscf.org* or by telephone at 917-406-0058.

Somers Lions is always welcoming new members. For information, call Dr. Louis E. Bisogni at 318-9950 (cell).

* * *

FRIENDS OF THE SOMERS LIBRARY

Submitted by Susan Taylor

ANNUAL APPEAL

"The only thing you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library." Albert Einstein

How true that is! The Somers library is a vital cultural and educational center for our town, thanks to the generosity of its Friends! Each year, through its annual appeal, the Friends raise funds to support wonderful programs as well as providing occasional gifts to the library such as the new entry landscaping and the construction of the circulation desk. Last year, the library hosted 987 programs for adults, teens, and children. These programs hosted over 16,000 attendees, thanks, in great part, to our generous donors.

We need your support to continue to help our library to thrive! Watch for our annual appeal mailing or pick up our brochure at the library. Donations of any amount can be sent to:

Friends care of Somers Library Post Office Box 443 Somers, New York 10589

Additional information is available at the Friends section on the library website: www.somerslibrary.org

The Friends of the Somers Library is a nonprofit organization chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York.

* * *

SOMERS LIBRARY

Programs are funded by the Friends of the Somers Library through vour donations.

FREE DOOR-TO-DOOR ROUND-TRIP TRANSPORTATION

Town of Somers Senior Services provides door-to-door transportation to and from the Somers Library every other Tuesday at 11 am. Call 232-0807 to make arrangements.

Here's a sampling of some events at the Somers Library in January. For more information, and where registration is required, go to the library's online calendar at *www.somerslibrary.org* or call 232-5717.

THE SUPER BOWL PRESENTATION

Saturday, January 25, from 1 to 2:30 pm

Did you know that the Super Bowl rose out of the civil rights movement—specifically, the African American boycott of the American Football League All Star Game in New Orleans? Evan Weiner, a veteran sports broadcaster, will take us on a journey from the birth of the Super Bowl to talk about the halftime shows and everything in between, including how the famed football game got its name.

JOURNALISM WORKSHOP

Thursdays, January 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30; February 6, 13, 20, and 27; and March /5, 12, 19, and 26 from 1 to 2:30 pm.

Registration is required.

Journalists write and report news stories about everything from social issues and politics to sports and entertainment. Learn how to present information so your readers can form their own opinion and make clear decisions. During this workshop, the following topics will be discussed: the art of journalism, what journalists actually do, and skills of a good journalist. This group is led by Linda Spear, journalist, author and workshop facilitator.

SENIOR BENEFITS INFORMATION CENTER (SBIC)

Wednesdays from 10 am to 1 pm (does not meet on days the Somers schools are closed due to snow). No appointment is necessary.

The SBIC helps adults 60 years of age and over, and those caring for the elderly, achieve a better understanding of Medicare health plans and prescription drug coverage. Information is provided about different types of government programs. Meet with trained counselors in a private setting to get information about Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Medigap supplement plans; Part D prescription drug coverage; Medicare savings plans for low-income seniors; and Financial benefit programs such as Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), and food stamps (SNAP). If you can't visit the library in person, you can leave a message on the SBIC helpline at 231-3260 or email it at SBIC@wlsmail.org with your name, number, a time to call between 9 am and 5 pm, and whether your interest is in Medicare services or other benefits. A counselor will return your call within two business days.



Old-world Westchester County comfort meets contemporary sophistication to create an incomparable setting for assisted living: The Club at Briarcliff Manor. Ensuring every individual's independence is well preserved, The Club delivers personalized assistance with the tasks of daily living – compassionately and with style.

NOW OPEN AND ACCEPTING RESIDENTS.

To find out more about our *Grand Opening Specials*, phone 914-559-9146.

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THECLUBBCM.COM









MARINES COME TO HERITAGE HILLS TO COLLECT OUR TOYS-FOR-TOTS

Text by Karl Milde, photos by Cheryl Milde

Mary Lou Martelli did it again, as she has done for so many years in the past: She planned, arranged for, and hosted the amazing December 7 annual

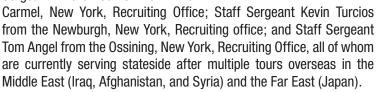


Toys-For-Tots Christmas Party for all the young at heart in Heritage Hills.



Santa (a/k/a Bruce Prince) arrived with a bag full of toys and a hearty "Ho, Ho, Ho!" Ensconced in a huge, throne-like chair, he spent both quantity and quality time with the children, getting to know them one by one and, of course, asking what they wanted for Christmas.

Adding to the festivities, three Marines appeared at the door in full military dress. They were Staff Sergeant Marc Sams from the





Before they left, the Marines collected a mountain of Tovs-for-Tots. Some had been dropped off in the Toys-For-Tots collection boxes in the Activities and Fitness Centers, many store-bought gifts were brought by guests as an entrance fee to the party, and there were many wooden toys made by Santa's Elves at the Heritage Hills Woodcraft shop. Those elves-Doug Hager, Ralph Gronbach and I—worked diligently the entire past year to craft more than 104 wooden toy cars, buses, airplanes, boats, wagons, and

cute little pink pigs that hold crayons.

All the while, the party-participants sipped eggnog (take your picksissy or spiked), got a sugar-high on candy and cookies, and listened to music played by Bob Larro and Dan Denerstein.

Now that was a Christmas Party to remember!

'TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING

Text and photo by Sue Shea

The Heritage Hills Bridge Club's annual Holiday Party turned out to be a great lesson in charity.

Club President Jovce Hochgesang accounts for the organization's generosity, "With creativity, the club was able to have two charity events in 2019 for the Putnam/ Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center. During a week in the fall, they collected donations from players at their Inex McCarthy and Joyce hit three games—with the Bridge Club matching the donations. Since the Center



the dance floor to "Trip the Life Fantastic"!

was running a fundraising event at the time, the \$600 donation was used to purchase raffle tickets. The Bridge Club won a certificate for \$100 off dinner for two at The Arch, so the club decided to run its own Holiday Raffle for that certificate. An additional \$250 was donated to the Center."

The drawing took place at the Holiday Party. Highlights of the buffet were delicious appetizers and desserts donated by club members as well as wine, soda, small sandwiches, and salads provided by the Club.

* * *

WESTCHESTER COUNTY SENIOR HALL OF FAME

Text by Jack Mattes, photo by Lorraine Clifford Koeper

A luncheon was held on December 6 at the Westchester Marriot Hotel for 74 Westchester County residents inducted into the Senior Hall of Fame. Five of the inductees are residents of Heritage Hills, as seen in this photograph. More than Standing: Arthur Saltzman, Terry 700 people attended the event.



Seated: Marilyn and Larry Kaufman. Clifford and Susan Petroccione.

The Senior Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services; the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation; and the Westchester Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services. Together they celebrate outstanding older Westchesterites for their achievements and contributions to others. The Senior Hall of Fame began in 1983 the 300th Anniversary of Westchester County's founding. Its purpose is to showcase how seniors contributed to building the County. More than 1.200 seniors have been inducted into the Senior Hall of Fame since its inception.

Nominees must be at least 60 years old and live in Westchester, have made significant contributions to improve life in the County, and be an outstanding leader or advocate. All inductees receive a membership certificate, the official Hall of Fame lapel pin, and are featured in the Hall of Fame on plaques located in the Department of Senior Programs and Services in Mount Vernon. New York.

Congratulations and thanks to Marilyn, Larry, Arthur, Terry and Susan for their contributions to our community, town and county.

* * *

JEOPARDY QUESTION: ELEGANCE AT THE THAYER HOTEL ANSWER: WHAT IS HIGH TEA?

Text by Karl Milde, photo by Cheryl Milde

Located on a hilltop in West Point, New York, with commanding views of the Hudson River and the United States Military Academy, the historic Thayer Hotel has been host to United States presidents and military generals since 1926. This national treasure of elegance and good taste, only an hour's drive from Heritage Hills, not only offers an amazing, over-the-top brunch every



Sunday, but, also, once a month on a Saturday afternoon, it offers High Tea.

What is High Tea? The very name speaks British elegance and, yes, it includes tea: Earl Grey, English Breakfast, Cherry Blossom, and Chamomile. You can sample them all.

And what goes with the tea? The classic High Tea includes a silver tray tower with three levels: On the bottom level, the largest, you'll see all sorts of tiny tea sandwiches; on the medium sized, mid-level tray there are scones; and on the top-level tray, the smallest but with plenty of room, you'll find all manner of sweets. During the hour or so you will spend with a friend or friends drinking tea, you'll work your way up the tray from bottom to top. The best part? No two sandwiches, scones, or sweets are alike. And every elegant hotel has their specialties.

For sandwiches, the Thayer offers watercress and egg salad, smoked salmon with dill cream cheese, cucumber and mint with sweet butter, shaved ham and brie, and chicken salad paired with herbed butter and lemon mustard mayonnaise. After you've tried all of those, you'll move up and sample the scones. The Thayer offers lemon blueberry, cranberry, raisin, almond, and chocolate chip ones paired with assorted flavored jams and Devonshire cream. When you finally reach the top-level tray, you'll savor the Thayer-made Madelines, macaroons, and all manner of bob-bons.

Wow! What an experience. When you finally pay the bill (a modest \$40 per person), you'll feel, for a short time at least, that everything's bloomin' alright with the world.

* * *

THE SOMERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Text by Karl Milde, photo by Cheryl Milde

Would you like to know the origins of the Elephant Hotel? Want to learn about "Old



Bet," the elephant on the pole in front of the Hotel? Curious about how Somers came to be called the "Cradle of the American Circus"? Ever heard of the "Farmers and Drovers Bank," a tiny one-room bank located where the Town Clerk's office is now located?

Come visit the Museum of the Somers Historical Society!

When: Every Thursday from 3 to 4 pm. Where: Third Floor of the Elephant Hotel.

There are four rooms (originally bedrooms of the hotel) that are reachable by the back stairs (sorry, there's no elevator in this historic building) that are well worth a visit. There's normally a docent on hand to explain the exhibits.

Room 1 is devoted to the early years of the American circus. You'll learn about the travelling menageries of exotic animals ("Old Bet" among them) that formed the basis of the circus. You'll learn that Hachaliah ("Hach") Bailey bought Old Bet on one of his business trips to Manhattan and became one of many menagerie owners, based in Somers, who formed the Zoological Institute of America.

Room 2, dedicated to Frances Billingsley, a founder and benefactress of the Somers Historical Society, houses a spectacular scale model of an early twentieth century circus. You'll see how the circus tent evolved to house the three-ring entertainment extravaganza. Model railroad buffs will enjoy seeing the circus train cars, each painted in bright colors, that carried the travelling animals.

Room 3 contains a one-room bank! See how Somers' own Farmers and Drovers Bank worked to deposit and issue checks and to provide cash to its depositors. Check out the bank's own currency and sit at the desk of the bank's first President, Horace Bailey. If he didn't like you, he'd shut the back panel on his desk and you'd find the bank closed for business.

Room 4 is the "Somers Room" where you'll learn how Somers townspeople lived in the "old days." Did you know that the pedal-operated Empire home sewing machine was manufactured in South Somers, somewhere near the Muscoot Tavern? Did you know that farmers from 100 miles around brought their pigs and cattle to Somers to have them fed and fattened before they were slaughtered and sent down the Hudson River to Manhattan? Did you know that "T J's Auto Repair" was the site of an early Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealership run by an African-American Somers resident named Wm. B. Johnson?

If you're at all interested what happened in the past, and in Somers' past in particular, the Somers Historical Society Museum is the place to go.

GETTING THERE (AND BACK) IS *NOT* HALF THE FUN

By Stan Herz Pearlman

It's two o'clock in the morning and the phone rings. My wife and I are not sleeping because we have been expecting the call. I answer and hear a slightly accented voice, "This is your automated wakeup call." We are in Jerusalem and so starts another homeward journey. Ben Gurion airport is 45 minutes away and our flight is scheduled to depart at 6:15 am. In Israel you allow for three hours at the airport. We grab a coffee in the hotel lobby, board a darkened bus, and arrive at a beehive of activity in the middle of the night.

Such is travel, and that got me thinking—not about experiencing a foreign land, but what it takes to get there and back. Here are some other experiences:

We arrived in Amsterdam where we had arranged to stay at a B&B in a private house. We loaded our luggage into a taxi and drove to the address. We removed our suitcases, the driver took off, and we knocked on the door. A young lady answered and knew nothing about a B&B. We discovered that we were at the right house number, but on the wrong street. Fortunately, we were only a few blocks away and we trudged there across canal bridges with our belongings in tow.

On a trip to Beijing, we were to be met at the airport by an English-speaking guide. No one was there and my Mandarin language skills were limited to ordering off of a menu. We did find a multilingual information desk which contacted the guide who was tied up in traffic. That was better than another time when we arrived in Hong Kong and the representative at the traveler's help desk did not speak any English in this former British colony.

We were passing through immigration at St. Petersburg, Russia, to join a tour. The dour-faced officer kept looking at my passport, my visa, and me, several times — repeatedly. Then she unexpectedly picked up the phone and called someone. I had visions of a Russian agent showing up and taking me away. You hear stories about people suddenly being arrested in foreign countries for unclear reasons. But she let me pass through, and I later found out that the question was over my two-day visa listing the wrong time for me to join the tour.

Then there was the situation when on a warm night our flight to London out of Bradley International Airport north of Hartford was delayed until morning. We were given blankets so we could slumber outside the terminal on the sidewalk. That was the closest I came to feeling homeless.

But one flight arrangement did start perfectly well. The trip itinerary read: "Day One: Begin your exciting journey to this exotic land." When we received the flight arrangements shortly before departure, we saw the plane was scheduled to leave at 11:58 pm. Day One was two minutes long.

* * *

HERITAGE HILLS WINTER WONDERLAND, DECEMBER 2019

Poem by Ogden Nash, photos by Sue Shea

WINTER WONDERLAND

Winter is the king of showmen,
Turning tree stumps into snow men,
And houses into birthday cakes,
And spreading sugar over lakes.
Smooth and clean and frosty white,
The world looks good enough to bite.
That's the season to be young
Catching snowflakes on your tongue.
Snow is snowy when it's snowing
I'm sorry it's slushy when it's going.



JANUARY IS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

By Midge Miller

National Mentoring Month is the time to recognize and celebrate our *TEAM Tuskers Mentoring* mentors who support the youth in Somers by creating friendships formed with students in an effort to help improve their social and emotional well-being and help them learn how to make healthy choices. Through simple interactions, mentors build a friendship of trust and support. This year over 70 mentors and students participated in the program.

TEAM Tuskers Mentoring, which I currently run, was created in the Fall of 2012. Now, seven years later, it continues to grow thanks to the dedication and support of many Heritage Hills residents who mentor Somers students. This month, special recognition goes to these Heritage Hills residents:

Ken Benjamin Charlotte Morsch
Chris Collura Donna Nevin
Chris O'Connell Janet Parke
Pam Everitt Jim Panettiere
Janet Giewat Bonnie Sue Rauch

Carol Harrigan Pat Roth Nancy Hiller Deica Ruiz Marilyn Jablonski Irwin Schaindlin Paul Lozito Judy Spar Mary Maliniak Manny Stern **Chris Tegmier** Marisa Marini Cindy McDonald **Dottie Templeton** Peggy McEarchern Angela Viscogliosi

Irene Milzoff

If you are interested in learning more about the program, please check out our website at *www.somersschools.org/teamtuskers*. Our email address is *teamtuskersmentoring@gmail.com* and our phone number is 481-2716.





ROSE O'DONNELL, PRESIDENT, WOMEN'S CLUB

Text by Shirley Kesselman, photo by Sue Shea

Rose moved to Heritage Hills 25 years ago from the Bronx. Her children had moved away from home, and she decided it was time for



her to leave also. She learned of this community from her daughter-inlaw, a real estate agent based in Yorktown at the time. Currently her four children, six grandchildren and three great grandchildren all live in this area.

A graduate of Bronx Community College School of Nursing, Rose worked at Jacoby Hospital in the Bronx for 26 years. She had experience in the ICU, CCU, and OB-GYN clinics and in case management. She was still working when she moved here.

When Rose retired, she wanted to "get involved, make friends, and give back to the community." To achieve that goal, she joined the Women's Club. In addition, Rose is a member of the Community Theater. "In past years, I have had parts in several plays," she elaborates. She enjoys attending performances presented by Club Shalom and uses our Fitness Center and library. "I am planning to go back to line dancing," she says wistfully.

Friends are a very important aspect of Rose's life. They often go out to lunch, and on Tuesday she has a regular game of "turkey trot." It's based on dominos, Rose explained. Rose attends St. Joseph's senior club

Rose has visited Ireland, where she has many cousins, several times. She plans to go again in 2020. In addition, she has travelled throughout Europe and has been to the Caribbean.

"According to long-time Heritage Hills residents, the Women's Club is the oldest club here," says Rose. The club's mission is to help women get to know one another and to raise money for charities. The money is raised at raffles held at the club's spring and December luncheons. Last year they gave \$200 each to twelve different organizations. Further, they award \$500 each year to a girl in Somers High School who is an all-around good student chosen by the school.

Rose credits her Board—Angela Merendino, Alfreda Savarese, Barbara Gatto, and Joan Jendras—with making the club successful. They solicit raffle prizes from local merchants as well as plan the club's luncheons and outings. These are open to all residents and their guests and are announced in this newsletter as well as on posters and flyers. Dues for the Women's Club are \$12 yearly and can be paid when attending one of their events. Rose enthusiastically invites us all to attend.

HAIKU FOR JANUARY

Verse by Sue Shea, photo by Nancy Ponton

Holidays over

With New Year's Day to start fresh

Resolutions made?



2020 Resolution: A vase of fresh cut flowers at home all winter.

* * *

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FINDING MY ROOTS—PART 1

Text and photos by Evey Albert

For years I wanted to trace my roots by visiting the European countries where my parents were born, but I didn't think it would ever happen. Then, during lunch with my young (47-year-old) cousin Erin and her stepmother, Edie, during their annual visit to this area from Virginia last year, I spoke of the possibility of going on such a "roots trip." I was pleasantly surprised when they said going with me to some small, obscure towns in Europe interested them. Before we knew it, the trip became a reality.

It is important for you to know that Erin is the granddaughter of my mother's cousin, who had lived with my grandparents in Hungary until, at the age of 12 years, she emigrated to the United States. My Jewish parents were living in Vienna, Austria, when Erin's Grandmother provided the affidavit that made it possible for them to escape Europe in 1939 and emigrate to this country.

During the roots-trip-planning stage, I located the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Institute of the Jewish Genealogy and Family Heritage Center in Warsaw Poland. It recommended an incredible researcher/guide Alex, who ultimately found an address for my father's family in Zolochiv, a town now located in independent Ukraine—not in Poland as I had originally thought (due to boundary changes over the years, Zolochiv is now part of Ukraine)

I also learned via the internet, about a young international lawyer, Igor Muryn, who was born in Zolochiv and works with the town's mayor, a non-Jew, to preserve any remnants of Jewish Heritage there. Ultimately, Igor and I became friends, and on October 14—after Erin, Edie, and I had met Alex and his driver in the small city of Lviv, Ukraine, and drove about 50 miles east through the countryside to Zolochiv (population approximately 24,270)—Igor met us there.



Erin, Alex, and me at the entrance to Zolochiv







Zolochiv Holocaust monument, Jewish Cemetery, and headstone remnant

The story of what happened in Zolochiv during World War II is tragic. The entire Jewish Community was exterminated by the Nazi and Communist regimes, and there is no Jewish community there now. All that exists is a lone monument commemorating the Holocaust victims and an empty green field where the Jewish cemetery had been.

Other than a few broken pieces, all evidence of headstones had been destroyed and removed. My grandmother's remains are most likely buried there (she died years before the war, when my father was a small child).

Despite the sadness, there were several highlights during our day

in Zolochiv. One was meeting the mayor, who indicated preservation funds in general are lacking—even for a lawnmower for what remains of the Jewish cemetery. It was very heartwarming to meet such a man, who found the goal of preserving the town's Jewish Heritage so important.



Erin, Zolochiv's Mayor, me, Edie, and Igor

The other highlight of my visit to Zolochiv was being interviewed at a local radio station. I was the only person from the United States of America with a Jewish background to ever visit the town, so interviewing me was important. I was able to tell the listeners about my connection to their town, and also to inform the young people there about the tragedy that took place in their town during the war—apparently, they're unaware of what happened right there. I am so very grateful that my new friend Igor arranged and conducted the interview.

..... to be continued.







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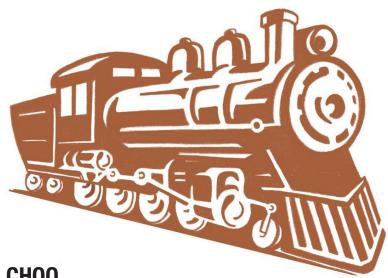


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CHARLIE THE CHOO CHOO

By Karl Milde

CHAPTER 1: CHARLIE IS BORN

One day long ago, the Big Boss of the New York Central Railroad asked Manny and Phil to travel to a factory in Pennsylvania and bring a brand-new steam engine home to the railroad yard in Albany, New York. They could recall standing in front of the huge factory door one morning, waiting for it to open. Eventually the door made a creaking sound and began to lift upward. They peeked under it and saw their new engine for the first time. The engine had a shiny metal boiler with a smokestack on top, and an engineer's cab, all mounted on four big drive wheels on each side. Coupled to the engine, right behind it, was a short railroad car called the "tender." Its job was to carry the coal and water for the engine.

The first thing Manny said was, "We've got to paint it."

"Yeah," Phil agreed. "It can't be runnin' around naked. What color are you thinkin'?"

"Black, of course. All steam engines are black."

"Naw. Black's too plain. We want our engine to look special." Manny cocked his head. "Then green maybe? What do you think?"

"I dunno. Don't want it lookin' like a fire-breathin' dragon."

"What about brown?"

"Brown's okay."

Manny stared at the engine with its tender behind and tried to imagine what they would look like painted brown. "Yeah. Let's paint it a penny brown," he said finally."

"Penny brown? What the heck kinda' color is that?"

"It's the color of a penny. Copper-like. He'll be one handsome engine, he will."

"Penny brown. Good grief!" Phil poked fun of the fancy name. "Okay then. How about a name?" he asked Manny.

"A name?" Manny looked at Phil with raised eyebrows.

"Yeah a name. Like, say, Tom, Dick or Harry."

"I wouldn't choose any of those," Manny replied.

"Then you pick a name, fancy-pants."

"How about 'Charlie'? We could call him 'Charlie the Choo-Choo."

"Hmm..." Phil looked up at the engine and squinted. "He kinda looks like a 'Charlie,' don't ya think? That's a good name for our fella."

Just at that moment the engine, which was being warmed by a small fire in its belly, made a pleasant rumbling sound.

Phil looked up at the engine again and smiled. "Seems like he's talkin' to us, Manny. I think Charlie likes his new name."

"Hello, Charlie," Manny said. "I'm Manny, your engineer. That means I'm your driver and your mechanic as well. I'll be keeping you oiled and running smoothly."

"And I'm Phil, your fireman," Phil said proudly. "I'll keep the fire burning in your firebox to make just the right amount of steam. We're glad to meet you, Charlie. Manny and I have come to take you home."

To be continued in February.



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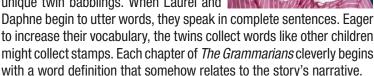


THE BOOK SHELF

By Cindy Kennedy

The title characters of Cathleen Schine's warm and witty novel *The Grammarians* are a pair of identical twin sisters. Laurel and Daphne Wolfe look so much alike that heads turn wherever they go. Even their bemused parents Arthur and Sally have trouble telling them apart.

From an early age, the girls are fascinated with language, starting with their own unique twin babblings. When Laurel and



Laurel and Daphne fondly recall the day their father Arthur brought home their most treasured possession—a behemoth edition of Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language. Arthur bought the dictionary along with boxes of other books from a man in his office. It was the dictionary, however, which Arthur set on a lectern-like book stand that enthralled the twins. When Arthur and Sally get their daughters a dog, the girls invariably name him Webster.

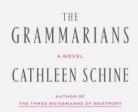
The twins grow up fiercely loyal to one another yet keenly competitive. Laurel, who had been born 17 minutes earlier than Daphne "did everything first. Everything good, everything bad. Laurel was first in the cold water at the beach, and first through the door of every classroom." Their parents had known they were expecting twins; Daphne was dismayed not to be "the startling bonus, the icing on the cake...she was the second child."

During their college years, Laurel and Daphne start at different colleges but end up together at Pomona. After a few years in California, they decide to come home: "They agreed that by 'home' they did not mean Larchmont; they meant New York City, home to all." The two share an apartment in the East Village and begin their careers. Daphne becomes a small-press copy editor, and Laurel starts teaching kindergarten. Eventually, they each marry and start families.

When Laurel leaves her teaching job and becomes a poet, Daphne sees her sister's unstructured poems as an afront to standard English. Inexplicably, the twins' mutual love of language strains their relationship. It's up to their families to help Laurel and Daphne bridge the divide.

Ms. Schine, whose comedic flair has been compared to Nora Ephron's, completely nails the complex twin relationship, as this identical-twin reviewer can attest. But one need not be a twin to enjoy *The Grammarians*. Deemed a 2019 New York Times Best Book, *The Grammarians* is a delightful, captivating read.

(Note: *The Grammarians* is part of the Heritage Hills Library and Somers Library collections. For a list of new books at the Heritage Hills Library, please see page 13.)





FIT-BITS

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPERLY WARMING UP PRIOR TO EXERCISING DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.

By Mary Tedesco

Exercising without a warm-up routine is a big no-no, especially during the winter months when your muscles are cold and tighter than on warmer spring and summer days.

Warming up your muscles prior to physical activity such as weightlifting is extremely important.

A warm-up should consist of light cardiovascular exercise such as walking on the treadmill, using a recumbent or upright bike, doing jumping jacks, or marching in place, just to name a few.

Warming up helps increase circulation, increase your body temperature and gradually bring the heart rate up. Once the muscles are warmer that will help to prevent injuries by loosening the joints and increasing blood flow to the muscles.

We suggest warming up for ten to fifteen minutes, which gives the body plenty of time to get ready for the physical activity.







In December, the Culinary Club celebrated the holidays with a party featuring appetizers and desserts. Each club member prepared what they preferred—an appetizer or dessert. A committee coordinated the choices to result in a bountiful, varied, and delicious feast. This Artichoke Souffle was prepared by



"retired" caterer, Pat Conetta, and requires only four ingredients. It's very easy to make and prefect for all your entertaining occasions.

ARTICHOKE SOUFFLE

Ingredients

- 1 14-ounce can of artichokes in water
- 1 cup Hellmann's Mayonnaise
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 cup minced, dehydrated onions (found in the Spices section of the grocery store)

Directions

Preheat oven to 350°

- 1. Drain the artichokes completely and chop into medium pieces.
- 2. Hydrate the minced onions in water to cover, until the water is absorbed. Make sure there is not excess liquid.
- 3. Mix the mayonnaise, cheese, onions, and artichokes completely
- 4. Transfer to an oven-proof dish.
- 5. Bake in preheated oven until it is golden on top.

Serve with crackers or toasted pita chips.





Pat Conetta - View from my patio





SIGNS FOR THESE TIMES

By Shirley Kesselman

When visiting California, I have often observed restroom signs that read "unisex." If waiting in line to use the facility, I could be behind a male or female.

Back in Somers and environs, restroom signs usually say "Male" or "Female"

However, when traveling through New Paltz I found a new designation—a restaurant posted "Whatever."





PUMPKIN CHIFFON PIE A LA BLEAK HOUSE

Text and photo by Sue Shea



To impress the Thanksgiving guests, I made this elegant pie.

Dickens' *Bleak House* is his longest story—20 episodes. Like his 20 episodes, this pie took 20 steps and 20 different implements to make. I lost count after using 2 sets of measuring cups, measuring spoons, whisks, beaters, bowls, pots, cream, sugar, 4 spices, gelatin, gingersnap cookies, and 4 eggs. I also wrote almost 20 emails to the friend who provided me with the recipe to check on precise instructions and the timing to add the many ingredients. And it took at least 20 minutes to clean up the kitchen!

Pumpkin Pie *a la* Flop! I did not place it in my daughter's refrigerator when I drove over in the morning. By 4 o'clock dessert time, the pie had turned to soft but tasty runny custard pie!

* * *

DISPATCH FROM THE PROVINCES

Text and drawing by Eric Felderman



PHANTASM UPDATE

You probably do not suspect it, but many of the people that you encounter every day are actually phantasms!

I hear you ask, "Can this be true?" You cry out, "But what are they?" You expostulate, "Where do they come from?"

Please sit down and calm yourself and I will tell you.

About thirty year ago anxiety developed that the nation was suffering from a "witchcraft gap"—parallel to the 1950s "missile gap" that Kennedy staffers thought they had detected. News had leaked out of extensive experiments in extrasensory perception taking place in Moscow. Washington immediately launched its own research and development project to explore the powers of "magic."

The unexpected creation of phantasms was the project's most dramatic achievement. However, the engineers had neglected to take into account the psycho-cultural dimension of their achievement. Traditional phantasms from the time of King James and Cotton Mather were imbued with the hierarchical spirit of that age They could be counted on to obey the commands of their masters. But the modern phantasm had modern ideas about the liberty of the individual. He resented attempts to simply bark orders at him. After much disruption and confusion, a Phantasm Liberation Movement was organized! The horrified military brass promptly slashed the research budget, and the phantasm component of the overall project was abandoned.

And the phantasms? Apparently, they were given ample severance pay, after which they simply floated off into the everyday world.

If you are curious about all this, we suggest studying the accompanying picture, that depicts a typical afternoon in Central Park, and then see if you can identify which of the figures are human, and which are phantasms.

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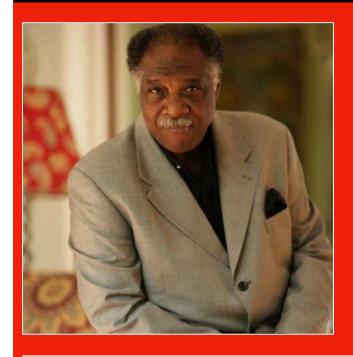
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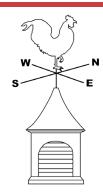
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© Bob Ettinger - View from the patio at the activity center



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Various units sold by MLS agents from January 1 to December 10, 2019

1 BEDROOM					
FRANKLIN	\$247,000; \$255,000 \$250,000; \$285,000; \$300,000; \$247,000	GUILFORD	\$295,000; \$300,000; \$300,000; \$300,000 \$305,000; \$305,000 \$302,500; \$292,000;	RADCLIFFE	\$295,000; \$305,000 \$347,000 \$400,000
		2 BE	DROOM		
ARMONK	\$380,000; \$350,000; \$362,000; \$385,000; \$403,000; \$475,000; \$412,000; \$435,000; \$360,000; \$412,000;	HARVARD JACKSON KATONAH	\$560,000; \$568,000; \$560,000; \$725,000; \$570,000; \$560,000 \$319,000; \$312,000 \$300,000; \$360,000;	PRINCETON PUTNAM ROCKLAND SALEM	\$479,000; \$540,000 \$319,500; \$303,000; \$245,000 \$350,000 \$440,000; \$420,000;
BEDFORD BERKSHIRE	\$429,500; \$438,750 \$415,000 \$480,000	KENT	\$347,750; \$409,500 \$385,000; \$405,000; \$382,000; \$416,000		\$327,500; \$462,000; \$415,000; \$438,500; \$530,000; \$335,000
CAMBRIDGE CANAAN	\$517,500 \$380,000; \$435,000; \$450,000; \$475,000	LEXINGTON	\$430,000; \$410,000; \$425,000; \$435,000	SOMERS STANFORD STRATFORD	\$438,000 \$610,000 \$370,000; \$385,000;
CORNELL FAIRVIEW	\$565,000 \$427,500; \$455,000; \$415,000; \$435,000	LINCOLN LITCHFIELD MADISON	\$301,000; \$322,50;		\$447,500; \$540,000; \$535,000; \$535,000; \$425,000; \$385,000;
HAMILTON HANCOCK HANOVER	\$314,000; \$326,900 \$310,000; \$334,000 \$305,000; \$380,000; \$437,500	MONROE	\$342,000 \$362,500; \$270,000; \$335,000; \$320,000	SYRACUSE YALE	\$430,000; \$445,000; \$360,000 \$591,000 \$584,000
3 BEDROOM					
COLUMBIA COLUMBIA CROTON II HARRISON	\$835,000 \$835,000 \$525,000; 525,00;0 \$560,000 \$425,000		\$329,000 I \$485,000; 462,500 \$550,000; \$610,000; \$580,000; \$610,000; \$607,500; \$415,000;	SHERMAN II YORK	\$502,000; \$576,800 \$540,000; \$580,000; \$580,000; \$460,000; \$550,000 \$340,500; \$380,000
JEFFERSON	\$267,500; \$373,000; \$329,000; \$415,000;		\$579,000; \$585,000;	10KK	\$425,000

HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS 2020

If you have any questions or would like to know about sales for your particular model, please do not hesitate to contact me. Cell: 914-420-1850 or send an email to mlowenfeld@houlihanlawrence.com

Thank you, Marti

Towne Center at Somers | 104 Village Square | Somers, NY 10589 | HoulihanLawrence.com



WILLIAM RAVEIS

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Happy New Year

May this sparkling new year bring you great joy, peace and prosperity! We wish you the best and look forward to continuing our association in the coming years.

Happy New Year!

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