



# *Heritage Hills Newsletter*

**FEBRUARY 2022**



# Heritage Hills Society Information

Address ..... 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589

Website ..... [www.hhsociety.org](http://www.hhsociety.org)

Television..... Channel 21

## CONTACT INFORMATION – EMAIL

Society ..... [society@hhsociety.org](mailto:society@hhsociety.org)

Activities Office..... [activities@hhsociety.org](mailto:activities@hhsociety.org)

## CONTACT INFORMATION – TELEPHONE

Security ..... 914-276-2592

Bus..... 914-276-2877

Society Office ..... 914-276-2908

Library..... 914-276-7655

Activities Office..... 914-276-2636

Fitness Center ..... 914-669-5028

## EMERGENCIES 9-1-1

## Hours of Operation

### Activities Center

Building ..... 9 am to 11 pm

Activities Office..... 9 am to 5 pm

Society Office..... 9 am to 1 pm

Fitness Center & Gym ... Daily 4:30 am to 11 pm

Fine Arts Center ..... Group instruction and free time are scheduled  
by the Activities Office at 914-276-2908

Library ..... Monday thru Friday Noon to 3 pm

Bus Service – Weekdays Only (except holidays) – 914-276-2877

### Goldens Bridge MetroNorth Station Trips

Morning to/from: 5:15, 5:45, 6:45, and 7:45 – **Reservation Required**

Evening **PICK-UPS ONLY**: 5:35, 6:35, 7:35, and 8:35 – **No Reservation**

### Midday Trips – Reservations Required

To Activities Center, Lake Lodge, Meadowlark Park, and off site

Outbound, hourly 8:45 am to 2:45 pm

Inbound, hourly 9 am to 3 pm; 3:45 pm

To Pools 2 thru 5 / Tennis areas

To: 8:45 am (pool 4), hourly, 9:45 am to 2:45 pm

Hourly from 11 am to 3 pm; 3:45 pm

## UTILITIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Comcast ..... 800-934-6489

NYSEG..... 800-572-1131

Water/Sewer (Suez)..... 877-426-8969

ConEd ..... 800-752-6633

Verizon ..... 800-922-0204

## SERVICES FOR SENIORS

### TOWN OF SOMERS SENIOR SERVICES - 914-232-0807

Barbara Taberer, Director

#### Hot Lunch

- At Van Tassel House – **Free Transportation Available**  
Monday thru Friday at noon
- Delivered to home-bound, Monday thru Friday  
Meals leave Van Tassel House for delivery starting at 11:30 am  
Suggested contribution: **\$3** per meal

#### Medical Appointments - Transportation Available

Tuesday thru Thursday, 10 am to 3 pm

Suggested round-trip donation: **\$10**

#### Shopping Trips by Bus

Monday and Fridays at 10 am

Suggested round-trip donation: **\$2**

### OTHER SENIOR SERVICES

#### RideConnect - 914-242-7433

Transportation services seven days a week. Call to register.

#### MEDICARE - 800-633-4227 and [medicare.gov](http://medicare.gov)

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

#### My Second Home - 914-241-0770

Geriatric Day Care Intergenerational Program

#### Westchester County Senior Programs and Services - 914-813-6300

Referral agency for senior services including legal - 914-949-1305

Social Services: 914-995-5889

## SERVICES FOR ALL AGES, INCLUDING SENIORS

**AA** - 914-949-1200. Info and literature National Council on Alcoholism

**Adult Protection Services Intake** - Natalie Siler 914-995-2259.

**Cancer Care** - 800-ACS-2345

**Northern Westchester Hospital** - 914-242-8115

**Putnam Hospital** - 845-279-5711

**The Dominican Sisters** - Family Health Service 914-941-1654

Long- and short-term registered nurses.

**Hospice** - 914-666-4228 - 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** - 914-761-0600 - Provides  
in-home respite services matching families with trained sitters/companions.  
Contact Judy Fink, Coordinator, ext. 340; Carol Kobroff, Respite Specialist, ext. 310

#### Transportation for Cancer Treatments (free):

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

**Transportation for Disabled Residents** - County Office of Transportation 914-813-7777

**Para-Transit** - 914-995-7272 provides modified vans with ramp for curb-to curb  
service. Fare \$5 each way. Medical pre-authorization required. For eligibility call  
914-995-2960.

#### Private Ambulette Services

Superior Brewster 845-278-6992

CLC Trans 914-241-0112

#### 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

914-666-7616 - 8:30 am - 5 pm - Home care aides nursing, Nutrition  
consultation

**Publisher: Heritage Newsletters, Inc. | P. O. Box 185 • Somers NY, 10589 • 914-277-1122**

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**MASKS COVERING BOTH THE NOSE AND MOUTH AND SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING PRACTICES ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES INSIDE ALL SOCIETY FACILITY BUILDINGS.**

## HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE SENIOR ENTITLEMENTS PROGRAM SESSION – MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM

Friday, February 11, from 1 to 2 pm

This is the first of a series of Westchester County's Senior Entitlements Program sessions hosted by Jade Lew. This session addresses available help paying the Medicare Part B monthly premium. Income limits do apply, but in New York State there is no asset limit.

Attendance is by appointment only and limited to the first 10 requests. Registration is only by email – to [jadewonglew@gmail.com](mailto:jadewonglew@gmail.com) – in which you should provide your name, unit and phone numbers, and email address.

Subsequent sessions will include information about benefits available to Westchester County seniors, such as help paying for prescriptions, Medicare choices, home delivered lunch, and free cell phone or caption phones. The next session will take place on Friday, March 11.

\* \* \*

## SOCIETY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday, February 23, at 1:30 pm  
in the Heritage Room or on Zoom

As the time draws near it will be decided whether the meeting will be live in the Heritage Room or on Zoom. Watch for email blasts. All owners are welcome to attend the live meeting. Either way, it will be broadcast on Channel 21 while in progress and will be rebroadcast daily on that channel at 2 and 7 pm until the next meeting occurs.

Owners are welcome to raise matters of concern in person, if it's a live meeting, and can submit such concerns by email to [society@hhsociety.org](mailto:society@hhsociety.org) or by regular mail to Society Board, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. You must provide your name and unit number on written correspondence or when speaking at the meeting.

\* \* \*

### ON THE COVER

Snowdrops peeking through the snow can be seen in our area starting in mid-February. Learn more about them in this month's HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? Column on page 28.

### HERITAGE HILLS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Editor in Chief: Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi; Graphic Editor: Annette Bensen  
Writers/Editors/Photographers: Phyllis Bradbury, Terry Clifford,  
Cindy Kennedy, Shirley Kesselman, Karl Milde, Stan Herz Pearlman,  
Elizabeth Royston, Keri Reitman Schnapper

## CONTINUING EDUCATION CLUB

Submitted by Rosetta Benson

### FEBRUARY'S FILM SERIES CANCELED

Due to the current surge of COVID cases, the Continuing Education Club has decided that for the safety and well-being of both audience and staff, it is best to cancel the previously scheduled three-film series entitled, "Good Films for Hard Times."

### SAVE THESE DATES FOR TWO LECTURES BY RICHARD CLINCHY:

#### LAWRENCE KOHLBERG CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING ... OR SO HE SAYS

Tuesday, March 22, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

Lawrence Kohlberg was a professor of psychology at Harvard University who became famous for his research into what he termed *the stages of moral development*. This presentation will review his research, its strengths and weaknesses, and probe how understanding Kohlberg's stages may help us understand our current political climate and how and why each of us makes the moral decisions we do in our lives.

#### CONTEMPORARY ECONOMICS 101: WHAT'S GOING ON IN AMERICA'S ECONOMY AND WHAT THE ECONOMIC DECISIONS AMERICA MAKES TODAY MEAN FOR THE FUTURE

Tuesday, March 29, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

Watch for updates via email and Heritage Hills TV Channel 21.  
If you have any questions, call Ann at 914-617-9434.



Photo by  
Bonnie Sue -  
Photography

## Table of Contents

Activities/Classes/Clubs . . . . .	9–10
Columns. . . . .	28–29
Coming Events . . . . .	3–4
Community News . . . . .	5–9
Did You Know?. . . . .	13
Family Focus . . . . .	11
Features. . . . .	17–24



# COMING EVENTS



By Joyce Spector

## WE WILL NOT BE PRESENTING PROGRAMS DURING THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH.

### TAMAR HADASSAH

Sunday, April 3, at 1 pm in the Activity Center and on Zoom

The Advocacy Committee of Tamar Hadassah presents a panel of four activists, authors, and educators who will discuss the climate of bigotry and hatred in today's world and give us some insight into how we can foster respect and improve community relations.

Proof of vaccination is required. All attendees must wear masks. Admission is \$10 per person in the Activities Center and \$10 per family on Zoom (for which a link will be provided prior to the date of the program). Make your checks payable to Club Shalom and place them in our mailbox along with your name, phone number, and email address **no later than March 27**. Walk-ins will be welcome if space allows. If you have any questions call Alan Tepper at 914-670-8396.

\* \* \*

## THE TRAVEL GROUP

By Elaine Solimon

### BOOTLEGGING, BUNKERS, AND BARNs

Thursday, April 28, 10 am to 5:30 pm

Our first trip this year will be to Pine Plains New York. We will take you back in time with a guided tour to the era of prohibition. The "Bunker," reportedly built by the notorious mobster Dutch Schultz, consists of underground tunnels built to escape the "Feds." Included is lunch at the Boathouse in Lakeville, Connecticut. Flyers are available at the Activities Center.

The bus will leave Lake Lodge at 10 am. Cost is \$139 per person. Checks made payable to the Heritage Hills Travel Club should include unit and phone numbers and be placed in the Group's mail slot.

\* \* \*

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## THE NEWSLETTER WELCOMES ARTICLES AND PHOTOS FROM HERITAGE HILLS RESIDENTS

### OUR DEADLINE IS THE 6TH OF THE MONTH.

Authors' names will be indicated. We cannot guarantee that every item 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 or mail to the Heritage Hills Activities Office or Society Office at 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, NY 10589.



**OUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS: [HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com).**

### When Submitting Photos:

**If 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 if 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.

**We cannot use anything taken from the internet without authorization from the source.**

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## SOCIETY NEWS

*Compiled by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi*

### SOCIETY OPPOSES PUBLIC MINIATURE GOLF COURSE IN HERITAGE HILLS

*By Dom Rubino, President, Heritage Hills Society*

The Heritage Hills Society Board\*, and a great many Heritage Hills residents, are strongly opposed to the proposed expansion plans of the Somers National Golf Club, an 18-hole golf course located on the West Hill. Included in the Golf Club's plans are an 18-hole miniature golf course, a building housing four golf simulators, a cigar bar with a terrace, and an additional 24-space paved parking lot. The miniature golf course would be a commercial enterprise open to the general public.

Society and its legal counsel believe that the Golf Club's proposed commercial enterprise is not in compliance with Somers zoning requirements. Heritage Hills was developed under a type of zoning called a Designed Residential Development ("DRD"), which includes residences, open spaces, and recreational facilities. The Special Exception Use Permit under which the golf course was developed ensures the land will be restricted to golf course or open space use only. In addition, the DRD states that permitted recreation facilities shall be "intended primarily for the use of the residents of the designed residential development."

Society believes that the Golf Club's proposed commercial enterprise conflicts with these provisions of the DRD. Society's attorney agrees and has sent the Somers Town Building Inspector/Zoning Officer and the Town's attorney correspondence urging that the application should be denied because of its failure to comply with the DRD.

The Society Board has also reached out to the Somers Planning Board and Town officials/employees, as well as Quintin Lew, an owner of the Golf Club, expressing its concerns with an amusement park-type facility being placed in the middle of our quiet residential community. Among these concerns are the wear and tear on our community's private roads from nonresidential traffic, roads for which Heritage Hills residents bear the full cost of repair and maintenance; night lighting and noise emanating from the miniature golf course throughout the day and into the night from May through September; the removal of approximately 106 large trees as well as numerous smaller trees and bushes that currently provide a buffer between nearby condo units and the Golf Club; and the resulting decrease in property values, particularly of the units in the vicinity of the proposed miniature golf course, to name but a few. These quality of life concerns would result in a negative impact on the living environment of the entire Heritage Hills community and its residents.

The Council of Condominiums is organizing ways for each of the thirty condos and their respective residents to respond to the Golf Club's proposal and will communicate with each condo's president or its Council representative.

The Society Board will continue to be involved and proactive and will advise residents about upcoming public hearings as they are scheduled.

*\*Two Society Board members, Bruce Prince and Jack Mattes, abstain from Society's position regarding the Golf Club's proposal because they are members of the Town of Somers Planning Board.*

\*\*\*

### NEW SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER

*Transcript of January 3 email blast*

We are pleased to announce that as of January 1 Arthur Singer has been appointed to the Heritage Hills Society Board of Directors. Arthur will fill a 6-month Board position vacated by Bob Ettinger.

Arthur will be very helpful as he brings knowledge and experience in areas which will benefit the Society and the Heritage Hills Community. Below is his condensed Biography:

Name: Arthur Singer

Unit 803A, Condo 20. Telephone: 914-342-3159

E-Mail: [artshadow@juno.com](mailto:artshadow@juno.com)

Heritage Hills Resident 6 years

Garden Club Compliance Chair; Garden Club Maintenance Committee

Former Board Member, Condo 20

Member, Heritage Hills Wood Shop

Chairman, Town of Kent Planning Board, Putnam County, New York

Board Member, Home Owners Association, Carmel, New York

Chief Photographer, American Museum of Natural History

Photographer/Graphic Artist, United States Military Academy, West Point

\*\*\*

### 2022 SOCIETY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The current plan is that all meetings will take place in person in the Heritage Room. We will make a month-by-month decision whether the meetings will instead be on Zoom. Watch for email blasts. Each meeting will be televised live on Channel 21 and then rebroadcast there daily at 2 and 7 pm.

DAY	DATE	TIME
Wednesday	February 23	1:30 pm
Thursday	March 24	7:30 pm
Wednesday	April 27	1:30 pm
Wednesday	May 25	1:30 pm
Thursday	June 23	7:30 pm
Wednesday	July 27	1:30 pm
Wednesday	August 24	1:30 pm
Thursday	September 22	7:30 pm
Wednesday	October 19	1:30 pm
Wednesday	November 16	1:30 pm
Thursday	December 15	7:30 pm

\*\*\*

## SUMMARY OF PORTIONS OF THE DECEMBER 22, 2021, SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The meeting is being rebroadcast on Channel 21 daily at 2 and 7 pm until the next Society Board meeting on February 23. The full Minutes transcript can be found on the Society website, [hhsociety.org](https://hhsociety.org).

Board members in attendance: Gloria Anderson, Gene Archer, Annette Bensen, Frances Cicogna, Bob Ettinger, Bill Harden, Ann Harper, Dorinda Haskel-Palladino, Jack Mattes, Patricia Ploss, Bruce Prince, Dom Rubino, Deica Ruiz, Alan Tepper.

Absent: Mark Packer

John Milligan and Dave Jacobsen were also in attendance

### TREASURER'S REPORT – BILL HARDEN

#### • November Financials

Income. . . . .	\$ 457,686
Expenses. . . . .	(394,308)
Surplus . . . . .	\$ 63,378

- December invoices have exceeded \$300,000, reducing our annual surplus significantly.

### ACTIVITIES REOPENING STATUS – GLORIA ANDERSON, CHAIR

- The policy now in effect is that masks must be worn at all times when inside all Society facilities, and food or drink is prohibited other than to lower your mask to sip water. Some residents have asked why the additional restrictions have been put in place. While we follow New York State guidelines, Society facilities are private and we can take more restrictive measures as long as the restrictions are appropriate, are not discriminatory, and are made in good faith. The Society has decided not to check for vaccination status, but, rather, to follow a mask mandate at all times. The most effective mask is a KN95 or an N95, found at your local pharmacy or online.
- John Milligan mentioned that all Society facilities are kept as safe as possible, with air purification systems and enhanced cleaning and sanitation protocols.

### BYLAWS – GLORIA ANDERSON

The Bylaws have now been updated and the original is on file in our Society Office as required. Copies have been distributed to each of the 30 Condo Presidents and have been posted online on the Society website, [hhsociety.org](https://hhsociety.org).

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – ANNETTE BENSEN, CHAIR

Changes and repairs are still in progress on the website's events calendar and reservations system. The library pages are still in need of repair. We are currently seeking support from a new software company.

### MEADOWLARK PARK COMMITTEE – PAT PLOSS, CHAIR

- [See Rules and Regulations on page 7.]
- The Committee has recommended names for the three trails: Warren Trail (along Warren Street); The Heritage Trail (along Heritage Hills Drive); and Challenge Trail (the most difficult trail, west of Meadow Pond).

- Bird walks are an idea for the future.
- Park Place will soon receive new furniture.

### LIBRARY — BRUCE PRINCE, CHAIR

- The Committee agreed to rearrange the layout of certain book shelves in the Library over the next few weeks.
- A number of books will be relocated to Park Place at Meadowlark Park.

### SECURITY — DAVE JACOBSEN, PROSEGUR SUPERVISOR

- In 2021, we answered 2,793 calls.
- [See December Security Call Report, below.]

### OPERATIONS REPORT – JOHN MILLIGAN, PROPERTY MANAGER

- **New Generator:** Installation of the four new 1,000 gallon propane tanks will be done the last week of December, weather permitting. The tanks will be installed on a grassy lawn area outside the Wood Shop. Delivery of the generator is expected to be sometime in the Spring.
- **Drainage Projects:** Sections of pipes have been replaced in Condos 12 and 19.
- **Speed humps/bumps:** Different locations require different heights, all intended to slow cars down
- **Storm water basins:** We have 15 storm water basins, all of which are located on the West Hill. We have started doing maintenance on two in Condo 14 and two in Condo 27. A large basin along Warren Street will be worked on next week, weather permitting. Further maintenance work will continue in the spring
- **Meadowlark Park:** Driveways and the parking lot will require plowing when snow arrives, but there are no plans to treat the walking paths over the winter. Please dress accordingly if you plan to walk the trails.
- **NYSEG** has finished work on the East Hill. Next year work on the West Hill will be done in Condos 11, 13, 15, 16 and 17.
- The Society is responsible for 400 **Street lights**. Very few of the fixtures have failed but some have required maintenance of the wiring in the ground, which can be problematic. Recently three lights in Condo 18 had to be retrenched and replaced at a cost of close to \$10,000.
- Our maintenance staff is doing a great job at keeping our **buildings** clean and safe.

\*\*\*

## DECEMBER SECURITY CALL REPORT

*Dave Jacobsen, Prosegur Security*

During the month of December our Security staff received and responded to a total of 236 calls regarding the following matters:

Medical. . . . .	82
Security . . . . .	32 (open garage doors, other security concerns)
Fire. . . . .	14 (the majority of which were fire alarms)
Service. . . . .	81 (including 50 lift assists, 11 persons locked out, and 8 welfare checks)
Maintenance. . . . .	17 (2 water main breaks)
Car Accidents. . . . .	1
Parking Violations. . . . .	9 (in handicapped spaces, fire lanes, A roads, or B roads)

\*\*\*

**MEADOWLARK PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- Park is open from dawn until dusk for residents and their guests.
- Children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.
- Dogs must be on a leash, and you must pick up after your dog.
- What you bring in, you must take out.
- Not allowed:
  - Camping
  - Dumping
  - Littering
  - Open Fires
  - Swimming, Boating, or Ice Skating on the Ponds
  - ATVs, Motorcycles, Go-carts, Drones, or Radio-Controlled Vehicles

\* \* \*

**COUNCIL OF CONDOS***By Terry Clifford*

The Council of Condos meeting held on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 7 pm in the Activities Center included a moment of silence for the passing of former Society President, Richard Benedict.

The discussion at the meeting centered on the proposed addition of a mini golf course, indoor golf simulator, and cigar bar to the privately owned 18-hole Somers National Golf Course and restaurant at Somers Pointe located on the West Hill of Heritage Hills. The golf course itself is bordered by many Condos. However, the proposed additions are in the Golf Clubhouse and restaurant area. This impacts Condos 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 17 which border the proposed project area of the property and all of Heritage Hills due to the increase in traffic from outside visitors.

Mr. Quentin Lew, partner of Somers National Golf Club, outlined some of the design features of the mini golf course and land areas at the December Somers Planning Board meeting. Although 106 trees inside the construction area would be eliminated, dense shrubbery would screen the roadway. The mini golf course would include water features and 12-foot-high lighting. The steep slope would be terraced to beautify and mitigate water drainage.

Much discussion was given on how to let the Town of Somers and the Planning Board know the concerns Heritage Hills residents have about this project. Some of the suggestions were petitions, a letter writing campaign, and notification in the "Somers Record."

Stay tuned!

**The next meeting of the Council of Condos is February 16 at 7 pm in the Activities Center.** All Condo Presidents or their representatives are encouraged to attend.

\* \* \*

**EAST HILL MEN'S GOLF GROUP***By Ken Freeman*

As I write this in early January, waking up to 15 degrees just outside the window, it's tough to think much about golf. But as you read this in early February, the golf season start is just two months away, so it's time to start making your plans.

If you have an interest in playing golf in 2022, consider joining the East Hill Men's Golf Association. The convenience of golf right in your own backyard is tough to beat. The course is a fun challenge for all skill levels, from beginners to scratch golfers. And Somers National gives us a really good deal.

Best of all, you'll meet a fun group of guys. The banter is always lively, the competition is low key and friendly, and the handicap system levels the playing field even for beginners.

If you're interested, contact the group's membership chair, Bob Kenney, at [rlkret@aol.com](mailto:rlkret@aol.com) or 914-617-9884. You'll be glad you did.

\* \* \*

**THE WOMEN'S CLUB***Submitted by Phyllis Bradbury*

Congratulations to Grace (Teri) Gilligan, who celebrated her 102nd Birthday on January 15th!

Oh, how we wish we were able to publish a list of the exciting events planned for the next few months, but alas! that is not to be as yet. The Board has met and discussed possibilities, but since we are still under Covid restrictions, nothing can be finalized. As soon as we get the go-ahead, we promise The Women's Club will be ready. In the meantime, to paraphrase lines from the poem Warning by Jenny Joseph, 'But now we must follow the rules, pay our rent, not swear in the street, and set a good example.'

If you would like to know more about our club, call Membership Chairperson Alfreda Savarese at 914-617-2007. Please note that we are once again waiving membership fees for those who paid in 2020.

\* \* \*

**THE TRAVEL GROUP***By Elaine Solimon*

The Travel Group knows how important it is to give back. So, before 2021 ended, in the spirit of the Holiday Season, the Travel Group made several donations – to Saint Luke's Food Pantry in Somers, the Humane Society, the Salvation Army, and the Heritage Hills Library.

Make way for 2022!!! A new year marks new beginnings, new people to meet, new adventures to enjoy, and new memories to make. The Travel Group board is anxiously looking forward to starting our 2022 trips. What better way to accomplish this than by signing up for a trip with the us? See the COMING EVENTS section on page 4 of this Newsletter to learn about our *Bootlegging, Bunkers, and Barns* trip in April.



## HERITAGE HILLS SOCIETY BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES – JANUARY 1, 2022

Definition: Standing Committees advise and assist the Society Board in carrying out its mandate as defined in the Society's founding documents. The bylaws empower the President to appoint and remove Standing Committees and their chairpersons. Appointment of committee chairpersons shall be ratified by a majority of the Board.

<p><b>Activities</b> Ann Harper, Chair Dorinda Haskel-Palladino <u>Advisor to the Committee:</u> Andrew Kaplan, Activities Coordinator</p> <p><b>Audit</b> Gene Archer, Chair Jack Mattes Jerry Ploss</p> <p><b>Communications</b> Annette Bensen, Chair Alan Tepper</p> <p><b>Channel 21</b> <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> Andrew Kaplan, Activities Coordinator DuShawn Richardson Nick Madeo – Madeo Multimedia</p> <p><b>Newsletter</b> Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi, Editor-in-Chief Annette Bensen Phyllis Bradbury Terry Clifford Cindy Kennedy Shirley Kesselman Karl Milde Stan Herz Pearlman Elizabeth Royston Keri Reitman Schnapper</p> <p><b>Website</b> Annette Bensen <u>Advisor to the Committee:</u> Andrew Kaplan, Activities Coordinator</p> <p><b>Community Affairs</b> Jack Mattes, Chair Gene Archer Frances Cicogna Bruce Prince <u>Advisor to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p><b>Emergency Preparedness</b> Jack Mattes, Chair Frances Cicogna Alan Tepper Terry Clifford <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> Dave Jacobsen, Prosecur Supervisor John Milligan, Property Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager Julius Domingo, Ass't. Facilities Manager</p>	<p><b>Finance &amp; Budget</b> Bill Harden, Chair Deica Ruiz <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager Mary Beth Ciaramella, HMS Finance</p> <p><b>Fitness Center</b> Annette Bensen, Chair Mark Packer Donna Nevin Mathew Tager <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager Mary Tedesco, Fitness Center Manager Jonathan Reichbach, Fitness Center</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Safety</b> Flo Brodley, Chair Alicia Brescia Peggy DeGasperis Elfriede Eidam, RN Barbara George, LCSW Rosemary Glassman, RN Leslie Guttman, RN Mona Moriber, LCSW Eileen Plastino, RN Colleen Westbrook <u>Advisor to the Committee:</u> Dave Jacobsen, Prosecur Supervisor</p> <p><b>Infrastructure</b> Bruce Prince, Chair Art Singer <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager</p> <p><b>Insurance</b> Bill Harden, Chair Joe Labell</p> <p><b>Landscape</b> Patricia Ploss, Chair Joanne Meder Karl Milde Mary Ann Mitchell <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager John Maxner, Maxner Eileen Schmidt, Maxner Melissa Brent, Westchester Properties Consultant</p> <p><b>Legal</b> Gloria Anderson, Chair Patricia Ploss George Mancuso John O'Hanlon</p>	<p><b>Library</b> Bruce Prince, Chair Gloria Anderson Sheelagh Kaplan Cindy Kennedy Deica Ruiz Pat Conetta</p> <p><b>Maintenance Yard</b> Bruce Prince, Chair Art Singer <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager Mike Triano, Maintenance Yard Manager</p> <p><b>Meadowlark Park</b> Patricia Ploss, Chair Bill Harden Bruce Prince Alan Tepper Larry Daitch Marti Lowenfeld Mike McBride <u>Advisor to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p><b>Pool</b> Debbie Jackson, Co-Chair Laura Mellor, Co-Chair Jack Mattes Patricia Ploss Barbara Antonecchia Cara Bowden Stephanie Friedman Joan Sottile <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> John Milligan, Property Manager Julius Domingo, Ass't Facilities Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager Laura Cullen, HMS</p> <p><b>Security</b> Bruce Prince, Chair <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> Dave Jacobsen, Prosecur Supervisor John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p><b>Transportation</b> Mark Packer, Chair Jack Mattes Ken Benjamin Dietmar Choka <u>Advisors to the Committee:</u> Dave Jacobsen, Prosecur Supervisor John Milligan, Property Manager Mike Triano, Maintenance Yard Manager</p>
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## COMMUNITY THEATER CLUB

By Diana Richter

Rehearsals for "An Inspector Calls," the Community Theater Club production planned for June, continue under the direction of Sherry Asche. As we inch toward spring, we fervently hope Covid will be well on the wane, and our audiences can enjoy a fully staged play once again. Watch for further details in the months ahead!

\* \* \*

## Library COMMITTEE

### LARGE PRINT BOOKS

The Library has recently added a number of Large Print books to its collection.

These books are shelved in the ever-growing Large Print section.



### NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION IN FEBRUARY

#### Newly Published Books

##### Fiction

Galgut, Damon. . . . . *The Promise*  
Picoult, Jodi. . . . . *Wish You Were Here*  
Rooney, Sally. . . . . *Beautiful World, Where Are You*

##### Mystery

Banville, John. . . . . *April in Spain*  
George, Elizabeth. . . . . *Something to Hide*  
Kane, Darby. . . . . *The Replacement Wife*  
Prose, Nita. . . . . *The Maid*

##### Non-Fiction

Brown, Daniel James. . . . . *Facing the Mountain*  
Isaacson, Walter. . . . . *The Code Breaker*  
Tucci, Stanley. . . . . *Taste*

#### Newly Acquired Books

##### Fiction

Blake, Sarah. . . . . *The Guest Book*  
O'Brian, Patrick. . . . . *The Yellow Admiral*  
Shattuck, Jessica. . . . . *The Women in the Castle*  
Trigiani, Adriana. . . . . *All the Stars in the Heavens*

##### Mystery

Feeney, Alice. . . . . *Rock Paper Scissors*  
Rankin, Ian. . . . . *A Question of Blood*

#### Large Print Books

##### Fiction

Bushnell, Candace. . . . . *Killing Monica*  
Roberts, Nora. . . . . *The Witness*

##### Non-Fiction

Meacham, Jon. . . . . *American Gospel*  
Stahr, Walter. . . . . *John Jay*

**MASKS COVERING BOTH THE NOSE AND MOUTH AND SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING PRACTICES ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES INSIDE ALL SOCIETY FACILITY BUILDINGS.**

**GENERAL CLUB/CLASS INFORMATION AND  
REGULARLY OCCURRING ACTIVITIES  
Produced by the Activities Office  
Phone: 914-276-2636 or go to [activities@hhsociety.org](mailto:activities@hhsociety.org)**

Advance registration is required. To book a space for your group/club, contact Andrew Kaplan in the Activities Office by email at [activities@hhsociety.org](mailto:activities@hhsociety.org) or by phone at 914-276-2636.

### ARTS & CRAFTS

**I Love Art Class:** After School ART in Heritage Hills for Children Ages K to 6. Hosted by Miss Judika, M.S. Let's Be Creative Together! For more info, call 914-438-6750 or email [Judika266@gmail.com](mailto:Judika266@gmail.com). Four classes for: \$80 / \$20 per class. 4 to 5 pm on Tuesdays in Art Room B in the Activities Center.

**Needlecraft Group:** Charitable needlecraft group meets Wednesdays at 12:30 in the Game Room. All skill levels welcome. Must bring proof of Covid-19 vaccination. To register, call Linda at 914-277-2776.

**Painting with Judika Class:** Create a different painting in each class once a month. Step-by-step instructions given, and everyone leaves with a masterpiece! \$40 per class includes all supplies. Bring your mask and your creative spirit! To register, call Judika at 914-438-6750.

**Sketch Workshop Group:** Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Game Room. No fee. Beginner's welcome.

**Silk Fabric Painting Class:** Fee \$135. Must sign up for a full 4-week session. Space is limited. For more information, contact Evey at 914-276-0737 or email her at [evymusart@comcast.net](mailto:evymusart@comcast.net).

**Woodcraft Club:** The shop is available Monday thru Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm. For information and to register, contact Club President Ed at 914-276-0671 or 914-552-2303.

### CONCERT SOCIETY CLUB

We sponsor four classical concerts each year in May, June, September, and October, each followed by a wine and cheese Meet-the-Artists reception. The annual subscription rate is \$80 per person. Forms are at the Activities Center. If you have any questions, call Arlene Brown at 914-277-4703.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION CLUB

Our mission is to educate and *entertain*. We have monthly presentations by experts in the fields of art, literature, music, theatre, history, and politics on specified Tuesdays at 1:30 pm in The Heritage Room. See the **Coming Events** section of this Newsletter for more information or call Ann at 914-617-9434.

### EXERCISE

**15-15-15 Class:** Great class to begin or continue your fitness journey. Light cardio, light weights, stretch and relaxation. Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the gym. Contact Theresa for more information at [zumbawithme@aol.com](mailto:zumbawithme@aol.com).

**Body Sculpting Class:** Warmup low impact cardio, strength, and balance abdominal exercises on the floor or in a chair, and stretch relaxation cool down. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in Lake Lodge at 9 am and Thursday nights at 6 pm. \$10 per session or 3 classes for \$20. Call / email to register at 718-541-0861 / [Labzeiss@gmail.com](mailto:Labzeiss@gmail.com).

**Building Better Bodies (BBB) Class:** Monday 10:45 am via Zoom. Class focus is balance, core, and strength. There is no up/down from the ground in BBB. Contact Ingrid at 914-391-4046 or [ingrid9597@gmail.com](mailto:ingrid9597@gmail.com) for more information.

# ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

**Cardio/Strength/Stretch Class:** with Lori Barr. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. All levels are welcome, and modifications will be demonstrated. Bring a resistance band to each class. Weights are available for use or bring your own. Classes are \$8 each. Try the first for free!

**Chair Yoga with Satish Class:** Chair Yoga aimed at toning the entire body and increasing flexibility. Breathing and meditation for relaxation and mind body connection. Live music. Practice every Tuesday from 10 to 11:15 am with Satish Gambhir, Registered Yoga (500-RYT) and acupressure teacher with over 20 years of experience. \$8 per class. Call or email to register at 914-646-0887 or [Satishgambhir@gmail.com](mailto:Satishgambhir@gmail.com).

**Hikers & Walkers Group:** Weekly hikes from September to June. Information and our schedule are available at [hhsociety.org](http://hhsociety.org) / Activities / All Activities / Hikers and Walkers.

**Lyrical Arms Class:** Friday at 10:50 am. Build upper body strength and increase range of motion using fluid movements and light weights to lovely music. Contact Theresa for more information at [zumbawithme@aol.com](mailto:zumbawithme@aol.com).

**Pilates Barre Class:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in Lake Lodge at 10:15 am and Mondays at 6 pm. \$10 per session or 3 classes for \$20. Call or email to register at 718-541-0861 or [Labzeiss@gmail.com](mailto:Labzeiss@gmail.com).

**Rise and Shine Strength and Stretch Class with Theresa.** Saturday mornings 8:45. Contact Theresa for more information at [zumbawithme@aol.com](mailto:zumbawithme@aol.com).

**Zumba Gold Class:** Low impact dance fitness class. Fridays at 10 am. Contact Theresa for more information at [zumbawithme@aol.com](mailto:zumbawithme@aol.com).

## FAMILY NETWORK GROUP

Arranges organized family-oriented gatherings, days and evenings, several times a year. Go to [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) to join the group "Heritage Hills Family Network" or email [keri.reitman@gmail.com](mailto:keri.reitman@gmail.com).

## FUN & GAMES

**Bridge—Duplicate Club:** Mondays and Thursdays at 12:30 pm in the Activities Center—vaccinated only. Tuesdays at 12:30 pm and Fridays at 10 am on [Bridgebase.com](http://Bridgebase.com). For information, call Marie at 914-277-4266.

**Bridge Lessons Class:** Contact Marie at 914-277-4266.

**Heritage Hills Scrabblers Group: ON HIATUS DUE TO COVID:** Casual Scrabble game play on Thursdays starting at 1 pm in Room 2 of the Activities Center. All levels of play, including newbies, are welcome. Bring proof of Covid-19 vaccination. For more information, just walk in or contact Susan at 914-617-9228 or [ciwhitestar@comcast.net](mailto:ciwhitestar@comcast.net).

**Mah Jongg Group:** Mondays at noon in Lake Lodge Room 3 space is available please contact Susan Furino 914-617-9110, and space is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 am until 1 pm in Room 2 at Lake Lodge. Everyone must wear a mask. For further information contact Rebecca Fierro at 914-669-5328. If you are not a member now, please call me as we are at capacity and we are taking a waiting list.

**Ping Pong Group:** Thursdays at 10 am in the Game Room. Open to all residents. Come hang out and play!

## GARDEN CLUB

For information, including questions on membership and use of the Community Garden, please send an email to [hbgardenclubsecrtry@gmail.com](mailto:hbgardenclubsecrtry@gmail.com). If you would prefer to speak by phone, please contact Club President Joanne Meder at 914-318-5808 and leave a message.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

**Blood Pressure Screenings With a Smile:** Nurse Ellie Eidam offers screenings and good advice on the second Friday of the month, 9 to 11 am in the Game Room of the Activities Center. Your temperature may be taken. A mask is required at all times. **Please do not come to the Activities Center for your Blood Pressure Screening if you have tested positive for Covid-19, were recently exposed (within 14 days) to the virus or travelled to areas that have experienced high levels of the virus.** Contact Ellie at [elliebob1@gmail.com](mailto:elliebob1@gmail.com) or 914-617-2109 for more information.

**Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Support Group:** Caring for someone with dementia is a difficult and painful challenge. A support group can help those caring for someone with Alzheimer's/Dementia. Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of the month at 12:30 pm in Lake Lodge. Facilitated by Linda Ludwig, Psy.D. To register, call 914 617-9328 or email [ludwiglr@aol.com](mailto:ludwiglr@aol.com).

**Spousal/Partner Bereavement Group:** A support group that provides an opportunity to be with others who have lost a spouse or partner. Meets the second Thursday of the month at noon in the Activities Center. Facilitated by Linda Ludwig, Psy.D. To register, call 914 617-9328 or email [ludwiglr@aol.com](mailto:ludwiglr@aol.com).

**Senior Entitlements Program:** Monthly program on information about benefits available to seniors in Westchester County. See the COMING EVENTS section at the beginning of this Newsletter for specifics on this month's session.

## LIBRARY

Open Monday thru Friday from noon to 3 pm, For information on the collection, visit the webpage at [hhsociety.org](http://hhsociety.org) / Heritage Hills Library or call 914-276-7655.

## MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussion group on current event topics. Mondays from 9:30 to 11 am in the Activities Center or by Zoom with closed captioning. For information, email Ken Benjamin at [kenbenja@aol.com](mailto:kenbenja@aol.com) or call 914-617-9817.

## RAINBOW CONNECTION

Rainbow Connection is a group for LGBTQ members and their families, friends, and neighbors. All are welcome. We meet the first Thursday of each month at Lake Lodge from 5 to 7 pm. For more information contact Joanne at 914-450-5609.

## SHAKESPEARE GROUP

Meets in person, and on *Zoom*. See a film of a classic Shakespeare play, then read it and join in lively discussions. We meet every Tuesday from 10 to 11:30 am in the Activities Center, Room 3. All are welcome! For more information, call Susan Ray at 914-391-6686 or Margaret Howlett at 973-746-7816.

## SPORTS

**Bocce Group:** April through October: Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9:30 am.

**Pickleball Group:** Pickleball on the outdoor courts is open play, no reservations required. The gym is also available for indoor play. For details on both, and about the Pickleball Committee and community, email [PickleballHH@gmail.com](mailto:PickleballHH@gmail.com). See you on the courts!

**Golf Group:** Join the East Hill Men's Golf Association to enjoy weekly Thursday 9-hole casual competitions in a variety of formats, as well as Tuesday Stroke Play opportunities, from April thru November at Somers National Golf Club's course right here on Heritage Hills' West Hill. For more information, contact Membership Chairman Bob Kenney at 914-617-9884 or [rlkret@aol.com](mailto:rlkret@aol.com).

**Shuffleboard Group:** October through March on Wednesdays, 1 to 3 pm, and on Saturdays, 9:30 am to noon in the gymnasium.

**Tennis Group:** All tennis reservations are made via the Committee webpage under Activities at [hhsociety.org](http://hhsociety.org). For general information, at [hhsociety.org](http://hhsociety.org) go to Activities / All Activities / Recreation / Tennis Committee or call Barry at 914-617-9259. For information about the Tennis Committee, call Dena at 914-589-3560.

## TEN-A-MEN'S CLUB

Wednesday at 10 am in the Heritage Room. Continental breakfast available for \$2.

## TRAVEL CLUB

Our mission was designed for those who enjoy traveling on trips weather they are near or far. All details are handled by the Travel Club. Buses leave from and return to Heritage Hills. Information on our trips are available on flyers in the Activities Center, on TV Channel 21, and in the COMING EVENTS section of this Newsletter.

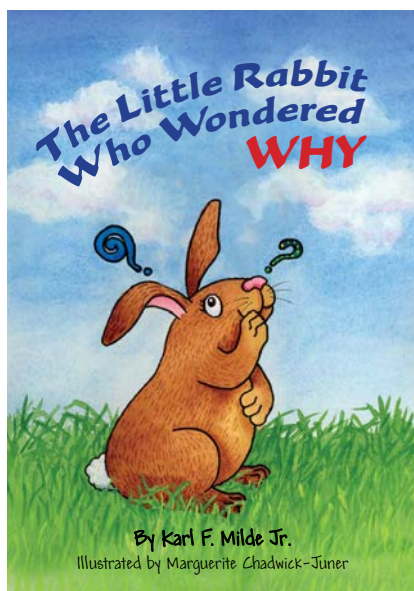
## WOMEN'S CLUB

Traditionally, no meetings are held in January; therefore, please keep an eye out for communications about February 2022.

## WRITERS WORKSHOP

Workshops on *Google Meet*! Mondays and Saturdays at 1 pm. Email Linda Spear, workshop facilitator, to arrange to join us! [Lindaspear211@gmail.com](mailto:Lindaspear211@gmail.com).





## Part 2 of 2

Bonnie hopped through the grass to one of the cows. "Hello," she said as politely as she could. "Could you answer a question for me?"

The cow looked at Bonnie with her big brown eyes and replied, "I will, if I know the answer."

"Do you know why you were born?" Bonnie asked.

"Why yes. I was born to give milk to the farmer," she said.

Bonnie walked over to the next field and asked a lamb

the same question. "Why were you born?"

The lamb looked at Bonnie and shook her head as if to say it was a stupid question. But she answered, "I was born to provide wool for the farmer."

Bonnie hopped back toward the barn deep in thought. "What was she supposed to do with her life?" she wondered.

When she reached the barnyard, she saw one of the chickens stepping this way and that, looking for food. She walked up to the hen and asked, "Would you mind if I asked you a question?"

"Not at all," replied the chicken.

Bonnie asked her, "Why were you born?"

"That's an easy question," said the hen. "I was born to lay eggs for the farmer."

"Do you know then why I was born?" Bonnie asked, thinking the chicken might know the answer to this question too.

"What can you do for the farmer?" the hen asked.

"I can't do anything."

"Then I can't imagine why you are here on the farm."

Bonnie felt she was going to cry. She had nothing to offer the farmer. She had no idea why she was even born.

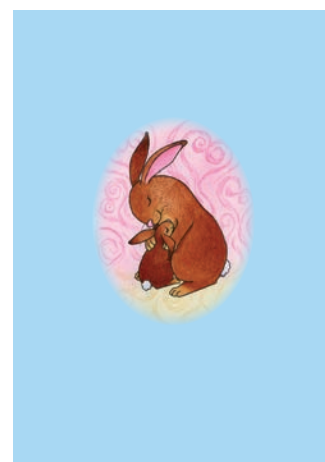
She ran home to her mother and asked her tearfully, "Why was I born?"

Bonnie's mother comforted her and said, "You were born because your father and I wanted you to be in our family."

"I know that," Bonnie said. "But what am I here for? What can I do for the farmer?"

Bonnie's mother looked at her and said gently, "The farmer loves us just the way we are."

Bonnie looked up at her mother and, with tears still in her eyes, she said, "I'm so glad to be here."



THE END

To hear this story told, and to see it illustrated in bright colors, visit:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwwwJ7kFb4Fg&ab\\_channel=JasonMilde](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwwwJ7kFb4Fg&ab_channel=JasonMilde)

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## TOWN OF SOMERS SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

*Submitted by Barbara Taberer, Director*

Driver provides assistance onto and off of the bus using a step stool and handling your mobility devices or using the wheelchair lift. An aide may accompany the rider. To register / book, call 914-232-0807.

### MEDICAL TRIPS

Trips, between 10 am and 3 pm, Tuesday through Thursday, can be arranged for medical appointments anywhere in Somers; in the Putnam Hospital area; as far south as the Northern Westchester Hospital area, including Caremount facilities there; and the Caremount facilities in Katonah and Yorktown. A donation of \$10 per trip is recommended.

### FEBRUARY SHOPPING TRIPS

Four trips per month per shopper. Two bags per shopper. A \$2 donation per shopper is recommended. Pick-ups start at 10 am on, with 1-1/2 hours shopping time, returning early-to-mid-afternoon.

#### MONDAY

February 7 ..... Christmas Tree Store  
February 14 ..... Walmart  
February 21 ..... Holiday  
February 28 ..... Danbury Fair Mall

#### FRIDAY

February 9 ..... Stop & Shop  
February 11 ..... Stew Leonard's  
February 18 ..... ShopRite  
February 25 ..... ACME

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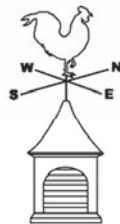
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Source: HGMLS, 1/1/19-12/31/19, total dollar volume of Single Family homes and Condominiums sold by agent, Somers  
school district; HGMLS 1/1/9-12/31/19, total volume Condominiums sold by agent, Somers.

## Yorktown Funeral Home

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### Your Questions Answered...

**Q:** 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  
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## WHEN BACKING OUT OF A PARKING SPOT – AN AUTOMOBILE SAFE PRACTICE TO FOLLOW

By Harvey Savadsky

**Question:** On a given day, how often are you parked head-in and then you have to back-out of your spot?

**Answer:** Probably more often than you can count.

**The Concern:** When you're backing-up your car it's always a dangerous situation. Your vision is limited. You are watching out for cars driving by, pedestrians walking by, adjacent car doors opening up, and you may be glancing at your rear-view camera. Additionally, you may be distracted by other people in your vehicle, or perhaps your pet dog needs attention.

**Question:** What is your car doing for safety?

**Answer:** When you place your car in reverse, your back-up lights go on.

**The Concern:** That is not necessarily enough to alert vehicles and people nearby that you are backing out of your parking space.

**Question:** What more can you do?

**Answer:** The tactic you should employ to help prevent impacts with cars or people is **turn your emergency flasher lights on!** This is a simple act that can prevent mishaps and/or reduce accidents. The continual bursts of bright light are definitely eye-catching and will draw further attention to your car's movement. It is a warning to people to slow-down, proceed with caution, or stop. It's safest for everyone.

\* \* \*

## COLD WEATHER THERAPY

By Adelaide B. Shaw

lazy afternoon  
Ol' Blue Eyes  
warms a memory—  
the promise of spring  
in his song  
reaching my ears  
his mellow tones  
melting my mood

the hard winter forgotten  
with dreams of summer  
cocooned by snow  
I listen to his voice  
spinning his love songs  
spinning me down  
that long ago road

\* \* \*

## HAIKU FOR FEBRUARY

Verse and photo by Sue Shae

Hopefully the final snow  
After our few winter woes  
After the big "brrrs" and chills



## THE NEW PLANTINGS ON WARREN STREET

*Text by Karl Milde, photos by Cheryl Milde*

Condo 10 is unique among the thirty Condos in Heritage Hills. It is the only one with units directly adjacent, and within clear sight of, a public road. To provide privacy, the rear of these units – the sides facing the road – were partially hidden behind a wall of trees and shrubbery.

One year ago, NYSEG worked diligently to cut branches from the trees along Warren Street, between the road and the units of Condo 10, to avoid their damaging overhead power lines during our ever-more-frequent blustery storms. Some of those trees were there since construction of Heritage Hills began in the 1970s, and they were consequently quite mature and showing their age. As a result of this cutting, the trees were left spindly and the adjacent units of Condo 10 were exposed to view from the road.

If you have a problem like that in Heritage Hills, who are you gonna call?

Enter John Maxner, the owner of Maxner Landscaping, and Joseph (“Joe”) Pignatelli, one of the head foremen and John’s specialist in landscaping design and planting. John took the call and soon met with representatives of Condo 10.

It was ultimately decided to completely remove the partially cut trees and plant a new attractive barrier that would provide the desired privacy for the residents. As a first step, the old trees were removed completely, stumps and all, and replaced with a new layer of topsoil. The area was then provisionally planted to lawn to allow time to create a landscaping plan. Condo 10 provided John with a map showing areas, marked with X’s, where plants were needed to block views from the road and to block the bright light from vehicle headlights from reaching the units.

Properly done, landscaping is a process requiring close cooperation between the landscaper and landowner. In this case, Condo 10 Board members traveled with John from nursery to nursery in Westchester, selecting the types of plants they wished to have planted. They also worked with Joe, who created proposed designs of the area with five or six garden beds of different sizes and locations. In the end, they settled on a particular design with critter-resistant plants that came within the constraints of their budget. A list of these plants is provided below.

Execution of his landscaping plan took Joe and his crew a little over a week this past September. Not only did the plants win praise from the Board and the residents of Condo 10, but they were so attractive that a number of residents funded additional plants around their units. Take a look as you drive by on Warren Street and, if you like what you see, you might want to consider doing the same – with Condo permission, of course.

The Plants:	Dragon Lady Holly	American Holly	Colorado Blue Spruce
	Green Giant Arborvitae	Skip Laurel	Mountain Fire Andromeda
	Juniper Trees	Creeping Juniper	Butterfly Bushes
	Liriope		









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## THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT GROUP

Text by Shirley Kesselman, photos by Phyllis Bradbury and Wendy Podell



The beautiful flower arrangements that grace the lobby of our Activities Center are there due to the combined efforts of residents who make up the Flower Arrangement Group. This group is an outgrowth of our Garden Club.

Addie Hearst, who was the club's president about 15 years ago, would pick flowers from her garden, arrange them in a vase, and place them in the lobby of the Activities Center. When Addie wasn't able to continue doing this, she asked Joyce

Hochgesang to take over for her, and Joyce formed a committee. Its efforts were recognized and lauded by many Heritage Hills residents. Eventually the group was allotted a small budget from Society.

Currently Wendy Podell, an artist and former art teacher, is the Chairperson of the Flower Arranging Group. Wendy had met Joyce

in the Heritage Hills garden where they both had plots. They shared a love of flowers. Wendy proceeded to join the Flower Arrangement Group, and she became its chairwoman three years ago.



Phyllis Bradbury, Wendy Podell, Ann DeStefano, Eileen Plastino, Michael Plastino, and Karolyn Fava

Now the Flower Arrangement Group consists of six members: Phyllis Bradbury, Anne DeStefano, Karolyn Fava, Michael and Eileen Plastino, and Wendy. Prior to Covid they met in the kitchen of the Activities Center monthly to share their knowledge of flowers and decide who would be in charge of the arrangements for the coming weeks. Now Wendy elicits the schedule via Email. Sometimes one person takes on



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the task; sometimes several persons work together. Wendy says, "The goal is to make the lobby welcoming and homey."

The number of arrangements in the lobby depends on who is in charge for the week. The priority is to place one on the table to the left of the entrance as one enters the lobby. There is additional space for flowers near the fireplace, the kitchen, and the entrance into the Heritage Room. New arrangements are usually set out on Monday, and on Thursday they are inspected, watered, and perhaps rearranged.

The committee members often make arrangements with flowers from their own gardens. Their allowance from Society enables them to buy flowers at Stop and Shop and Trader Joe's, but their budget is limited. Sometimes they contribute a little extra money of their own. It depends on what and how much each decides to do. Vases are stored in a cabinet in the Activities Center along with other flower arranging materials

Wendy says, "For our members flower arranging is a creative outlet."

Heritage Hills residents who enjoy the flower arrangements upon entering and exiting the Activities Center say, "Thank you."



## NEARBY WINTER SPORTS LOCATIONS

By Shirley Kesselman

Looking for a place nearby to go cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, and/or ice skating? Winter's cold and snow brings the opportunity to enjoy all these outdoor sports at no cost.

Our own Meadowlark Park is the nearest available site. However, as of this writing areas for these activities have not been designated and trails have not been prepared. You are on your own. One caveat - ice skating anywhere in the park is prohibited.

Many of the places I've written about in this Newsletter this past year include the availability of winter sports in their descriptive brochures and on their internet page. For your ease I've listed below those places that welcome participants.

- **WARD POUND RIDGE RESERVATION**, located in Cross River, offers cross-country skiing on five- three- and two-mile trails beginning at the end of Michigan Road. Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are also permitted on open fields. Sledding is available on Pell Hill. See a map of the park to find these places. The park is open year round 7 days a week from 8 am till dusk.
- **SAL J. PREZIOSO MOUNTAIN LAKES PARK**, located in North Salem, offers snowshoeing and ice skating. The park is open year round 7 days a week from dawn to dusk (exception for those with camping permits).
- **ROCKEFELLER STATE PARK PRESERVE**, located in Pleasantville, offers cross-country skiing and snowshoeing; and, there is sledding at ROCKWOOD HALL, which is a section of this park along the Hudson River. The park is open year round 7 days a week from dawn to dusk.

- **CROTON GORGE PARK**, located in Cortland, offers cross country skiing and sledding. The park is open year round 7 days a week, from 8 am to dusk.

- **FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT STATE PARK**, located in Yorktown Heights, offers cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and sledding. Ice fishing is also listed on the internet as a winter amenity at this park. The park is open daily from dawn to dusk year round.

In addition, two trailways about which I've written afford the opportunity for cross country skiing.

- **NORTH COUNTRY TRAILWAY** can be accessed at Baldwin Place.
- **MAYBROOK TRAILWAY** can be accessed in the Southeast Town Park on Tonette Lake.

In December of 2020 I interviewed Jane Smalley, President of our Hikers and Walkers Club, about walking/hiking in the winter. Her recommendations apply equally to winter sports.

1. Wear layers. Stay away from cotton clothing because there is a loss of insulation when wet.
2. Wear a hat.
3. Apply sunscreen.
4. Carry water, high energy snacks, sunglasses, and hand warmers.

Winter sports not for you? Walking in the parks is a splendid alternative.

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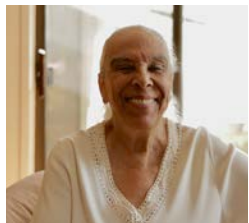
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## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

### PATRICIA ADAMS

*Text by Karl Milde, photo courtesy of Patricia Adams*



It's not often you meet a Renaissance Man: a person, like Leonardo da Vinci – painter, sculptor, architect, inventor, and mathematician – who's blessed with many talents and has mastered many areas of expertise. That's what comes to mind when you meet Patricia Adams, who lives right here in Heritage Hills.

Patricia is a genuine Renaissance Woman: a businesswoman, writer, journalist, newspaper editor, and an accomplished musician. After working for thirty-five years as Human Resources Manager for four Fortune 500 companies (IBM, First Boston, Arthur D. Little, and Digital Equipment Corporation), she pursued a second career as a bandleader, jazz vocalist, recording artist, and record producer, while serving as editor and feature writer for the Westchester County Press. And there's more – a lot more.

Upon earning both BS and MBA degrees in the 1960s, Patricia commenced her successful first career in the field of human resources management. It wasn't until the 1990s that she actively pursued another interest – indeed her passion – that she'd held in check since childhood: music. She studied music theory, harmony, and improvisation at the New England Conservatory in Boston and at the Performing Arts School of Worcester. With that grounding and countless hours of practice, she was eventually ready to throw caution to the wind and put herself out there.

Stepping onto a stage before a live audience for the first time in 1992 at a jazz nightclub in Boston, Patricia had a serious case of nervous butterflies. As it turned out, the audience loved her performance and her new career was launched. Many open mic and pro-bono gigs later, she traded her business career for life as a jazz singer. In addition to presenting live one-woman-shows, she was also a chanteuse with some of the world's renowned jazz artists. As her name gained traction, she developed a 250-song repertoire of jazz and blues standards of the 1930s and '40s. She also brought her years of business experience to the Berklee College of Music in Boston where, in collaboration with her Berklee Professor Ray Santisi, she created a Bandleader Toolkit™ and founded a leadership skills workshop for music bandleaders.

As a music professional, Patricia joined the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences and served on the board of the New England Conservatory. She earned a place in the 2009 edition of Scott Yanow's "The Jazz Singers."

All this, and we haven't even touched on her previously mentioned writing career with the Westchester County Press, a weekly newspaper once owned and published by her late father.

Married in 1961 to the late Roger Lee, a graduate of Yale who worked at IBM as a systems' engineer, Patricia enjoyed careers as businesswoman, journalist, musician, and educator. Patricia finally retired and moved to Heritage Hills in 2007.

## OUR DOG WOLF — Part 2

*Text and photo by Stephen Bobolia*

As promised in the January issue of this Newsletter, here's the story of Wolf's newsletter incident and another one.



Wolf taught himself to fetch the newspaper from the top of the driveway and deposit it on our front stoop. One wintry Sunday morning there was an ice storm. Our steep driveway that went downhill to our garage was slick with ice. The newspaperman beeped his horn and waited to watch Wolf grab the paper and

run back to our front stoop. Wolf raced for the paper. It was the big one – the Sunday *New York Times*.

Although challenged by the size of the paper, Wolf remained undaunted and eventually secured it in his jaw. He headed down the driveway, first running and then sliding uncontrollably on his fanny at a pretty good clip. Lacking any traction, his efforts to slow down were useless. He looked at me helplessly as he passed the left turn onto our front walk.

He hit the rear of the Jeep parked down by the garage pretty hard. As he smacked into the rear bumper the paper dropped from his mouth and slid underneath the car. I watched a dejected dog slowly get up and limp into the house with his tail between his legs.

A few days later his misadventure with the Sunday *Times* was momentarily forgotten and replaced with the joy of discovering a new toy. Wolf, like most dogs, liked funky things. He found a dead squirrel that had been run over and flattened by a truck and had frozen. He proudly trotted around the yard with his new trophy. I eventually convinced him to trade it for some dog treats. I carried the squirrel's elongated stiff body deep into the woods. I flung the thing and it seemed to glide pretty far on the wind currents.

An hour later I looked out the front window and there was Wolf smiling at me as he proudly exhibited his trophy clenched in his jaw. This time I took it and went into the woods with a shovel and buried it. I piled on some branches and logs for good measure. I went inside to watch a football game.

About 15 minutes later I heard scratching at the front door. I cautiously opened the door and there was Wolf with that dead thing in his mouth. He clearly was enjoying this new game. Determined to bring his toy inside, he ran towards me. We were fortunate, as the flattened squirrel was longer than the door opening. He began to growl after he failed several times to fit his deceased friend through the doorway. The head and tail of the corpse kept catching on the doorframe. I quickly offered him a treat and he dropped the thing on the stoop and came inside exhausted.

My wife suggested that I put the body in the trunk of our old Cadillac, take the plates off, and abandon it at Kennedy Airport.



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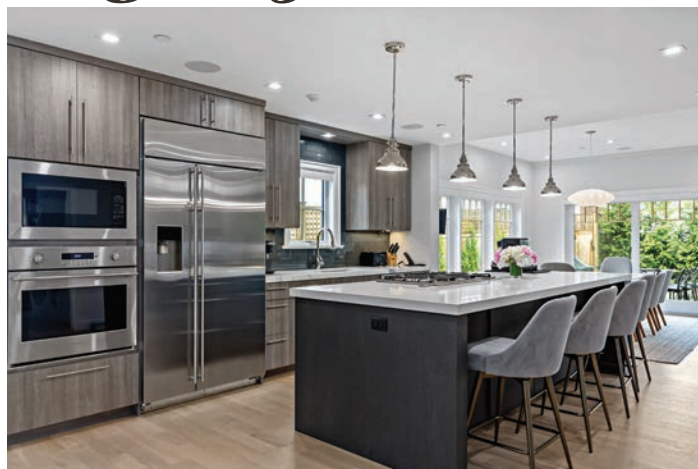
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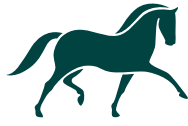
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## THE BOOK SHELF

By Cindy Kennedy

Andrew Haswell Green, the 19th century New York City planner who was an integral force behind many institutions, is the subject of *The Great Mistake*, Jonathan Lee's engaging novel. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park, and the New York Public Library all owe their existence to Andrew Haswell Green.

The novel's title is a nod to "great mistakes" associated with the "Father of Greater New York." Mr. Green's efforts to consolidate the existing boroughs into one city was derided as the "Great Mistake of 1898." His plan for Central Park was deemed a mistake as well. Although Mr. Green's life is little known today, his "mistaken" murder was notorious.

On Friday, November 13, 1903, 83-year-old Mr. Green was walking to his Park Avenue townhouse for lunch when a dapper man approached him. The man, insisting that Mr. Green knew him, kept muttering that he was "wronged by a woman." Despite the elderly gentleman's protestations, the intruder shot him dead in front of his housekeeper. Later identified as Cornelius Williams, the killer was quickly apprehended.

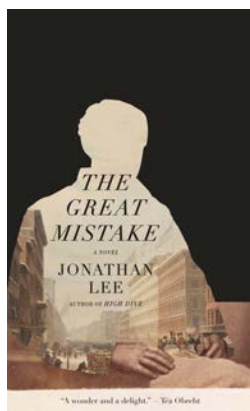
New York reporters dubbed the crime the "murder of the century," albeit the century was a mere three years old. Wild speculations ran rampant: "Was it a crime of passion, or a political assassination, or some kind of great mistake?" Given the murder victim's close ties to powerful politicians, particularly President Teddy Roosevelt, a scandal was feared. A homicide probe ensued, under the capable direction of Inspector McClusky.

The novel's chapters toggle between Inspector McClusky's investigation and flashbacks of Mr. Green's life. Born in 1820 to an unsuccessful Massachusetts farmer, Andrew Haswell Green advanced to become a lawyer under the tutelage of Samuel J. Tilden, the future Governor of New York. A lifelong bachelor, Mr. Green led a private personal life.

On a tip, Inspector McClusky deduced that Bessie Davis, residing at 236 Central Park West, was the woman Cornelius Williams mentioned when he shot Mr. Green. Arriving at the mansion, McClusky was surprised that Bessie was not a servant, but "a woman implausibly rich, with a great many properties to her name, all from playing hostess to the supposed gentlemen of this city." McClusky ultimately solved the "mistaken-identity" case, and Andrew Haswell Green faded into history.

Today, there are few memorials to Andrew Haswell Green – a marble bench in Central Park and a portrait tucked away in City Hall. His vision, nevertheless, outlasted his fame: "Parks. Bridges. Great institutions. Art. They were the only forms of immortality Andrew ever imagined."

(Note: *The Great Mistake* 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 9.)



## HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? ABOUT SNOWDROPS

By Karl Milde

As you know from *The Sound of Music*, the Swiss Alps have edelweiss, the little white flower that blooms in the snowy mountains. Not to be outdone, we have our *snowdrops*, the first flowers to bloom in the spring – well, actually, they start blooming in the winter, usually in February.

I was too young to notice when my mother planted snowdrop bulbs beside the front steps to our home in New England. However, every year as our severe winter waned, I couldn't help noticing green shoots poking up through the snow when I entered the house. These hardy little perennials eventually formed white, bell-like blossoms that drooped down of their own weight. The welcome sight always made me smile. Spring was on the way!

Flowering from January to March, snowdrops come in several varieties of differing size (small or even smaller) and differing shape (with closed or open pedels). Not only hardy but also deer, rabbit, and chipmunk-resistant, they make an ideal addition to your yard – in front, back, or on the side.

You can find bulbs for sale at many online sources. The most popular variety, which forms the familiar bell-like flowers, is called *galanthus nivalis*, seen on this issue's cover. You may also like the spring and summer "snowflakes," or the *galanthus plicatus*. It is larger and somewhat bushier than the common *nivalis* snowdrop.

No matter which variety, snowdrops are a gardener's dream because the little bulbs are easy to plant and produce such pleasing flowers year after year.

They say the white flowers symbolize innocence and purity. Because snowdrops are the first flowers to bloom at the end of winter and the beginning of spring, they also symbolize hope.







## DARK CHOCOLATE TRUFFLE TART

*Submitted by Pat Conetta*

This recipe is one of the favorites from the collection of a local caterer who was kind enough to share it. It's easy and elegant to make for a special gift or at a holiday table. It has a very chocolaty texture and is served with a raspberry sauce and whipped cream.

Use a 10-inch tart pan

### INGREDIENTS

#### Crust

1-1/2 cups chocolate wafer crumbs (use Nabisco famous wafers, and use about 3/4 of the package)

4 tbsp. butter, melted

#### Ganache

1-1/2 cups of heavy cream

12 ounces dark chocolate, roughly chopped  
(suggestion: use 8 ounces bittersweet and 4 ounces semi-sweet)

4 tbsp. butter at room temperature, cut into 1 tablespoon-ish pieces.

1 tsp. flaky sea salt (available at specialty store)

#### Whipped Cream

1-1/2 cups heavy whipping cream

1/2 tsp. vanilla bean paste

1 pinch salt

Granulated or powdered sugar to taste (1 tsp. granulated)

### PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

1. To make the crust, grind the chocolate wafers in a food processor and measure out 1-1/2 cups. Combine that with the melted butter until everything is evenly moistened and the mixture feels like wet sand.
2. Press the crust into a 10-inch tart pan with a removeable bottom, and up the sides, making sure it is well packed in and even. Using the bottom of a flat measuring cup helps.
3. Bake the crust for 10 to 12 minutes. Allow to cool.
4. To make the ganache, heat the heavy cream in a saucepan until it is just starting to simmer. Don't let it get too hot – remove from the burner when you see those first tiny bubbles.
5. Add the chopped chocolate and let it sit for a few minutes. (Exactly how long depends on how big your chocolate pieces are. The smaller the pieces, the more quickly they will melt. You want to err on the side of not letting the cream cool down too much so that the ganache is still warm and will pour smoothly.)

6. Whisk together the chocolate and cream until the mixture is smooth and shiny. Add in the butter, a couple pieces at a time, whisking well.

7. Pour the ganache into the prepared tart shell and carefully place the tart in the refrigerator to set for at least two hours before slicing.

8. Scatter the sea salt over the top of the tart when it has set, so that it doesn't sink into the chocolate.

9. To make the whipped cream, whip the cream, vanilla paste, salt and sugar together until it forms soft peaks.

Tips: When serving, to prevent your knife sticking to the fudgy chocolate filling, run it under hot water and clean it in between slicing.

For a gluten free version, use your favorite gluten free cookie to make the crust.

For a dairy-free version, use coconut cream in place of dairy cream and coconut oil in place of butter.

\* \* \*

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2. Find a buddy to work out with or take a class. Team sports and group-based activities are found to increase a positive outlook.
3. Yoga in the early morning and right before bedtime with mindful breathing helps us recover from mental stress and helps reduce anxiety and tension and leads to better rest.
4. Weight lifting...any weight lifting, be it light or heavy, is proven to have the same effect on a healthy outlook. It also increases confidence and a feeling of accomplishment.
5. Mindfulness practices – meditation or deep breathing – help brain function and reduce stress significantly. They also help you become more aware of your body and more realistic about your level of activity.

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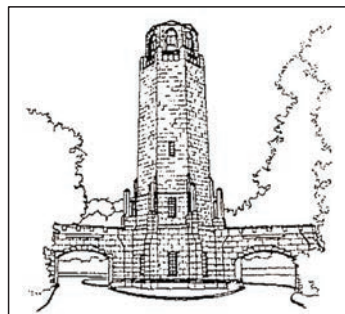
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#1 Selling Agent — Somers School District\*

\*Based on Total Volume Sales Ranking 1/1/2021 to 9/13/2021 MLS/OneKey

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*"Hope always replied to emails, constantly kept us updated and told us how to handle different situations when the buyers were trying to lower the price." — Robert T. (Somers Sale)*

*"Our agent, Hope Mazzola, was an absolute lifesaver during our sale and purchase. I think everything that could have gone wrong did at some point. We would have never survived this process without her." — Matthew M. (HH Seller & Somers buyer)*



Sales Vice President | Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker



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### Total units sold by OneKey/HGAR MLS agents from 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021

	2021	2020	2019	2018
<b>TOTAL SOLD</b>	<b>139</b> (\$275,000-\$750,000)	<b>145</b> (\$227,500-\$829,500)	<b>143</b> (\$245,000-\$835,000)	<b>132</b> (\$225,000-\$739,000)

### Various units sold by MLS agents from January 1 to December 31, 2021

#### 1 BEDROOM

ADAMS	\$285,000; \$307,000	GUILFORD	\$360,000; \$380,000;	RADCLIFFE	\$410,000; \$429,000;
AMHERST	\$440,000		\$375,000; \$361,000;		\$480,000
FRANKLIN	\$305,000; \$375,000;		\$400,000; \$385,000;	SUFFOLK	\$335,000; \$360,000
	\$305,000; \$305,000		\$385,000; \$411,000;	WHARTON	\$435,000
			\$360,000; \$385,000		

#### 2 BEDROOM

ARMONK	\$453,500; \$405,000;	HAMILTON	\$360,000; \$374,000;	RIDGEFIELD	\$434,000; \$420,000
	\$445,000; \$465,000;		\$350,000	ROCKLAND	\$359,000
	\$460,000; \$480,000;	HAMPTON	\$365,000; \$400,000	SALEM	\$500,000; \$492,000;
	\$469,900; \$400,000;	HANCOCK	\$320,000; \$330,000;		\$512,000; \$435,000;
	\$515,000; \$455,000;		\$370,000		\$459,000; \$470,000
	\$470,100; \$459,000	HARVARD	\$690,000; \$665,000;	SOMERS	\$471,000; \$450,000;
BEDFORD	\$535,000		\$676,250; \$699,900;		\$450,000
BERKSHIRE	\$535,000; \$530,029		\$710,000; \$749,000	STRATFORD	\$490,000; \$500,413;
CANAAN	\$395,000; \$485,000;	JACKSON	\$425,000; \$435,000		\$421,000; \$422,500;
	\$435,000; \$390,000;	KATONAH	\$375,000; \$470,000;		\$469,000; \$400,000;
	\$455,000		\$410,000; \$440,000		\$458,000; \$570,000
COLGATE	\$552,000; \$537,500	KENT	\$460,000	STRATFORD II	\$502,000
	\$495,000	LITCHFIELD	\$315,000	SYRACUSE	\$650,000
CONCORD	\$610,000; \$450,000	MONROE	\$342,000; \$350,000;	ROCKLAND	\$359,000
CORTLAND	\$425,000		\$420,000; \$355,000;	WELLSLEY	\$505,000; \$643,000
ETHAN ALLEN	\$395,000; \$340,000		\$425,000		
FAIRVIEW	\$390,000; \$625,000	PRINCETON	\$529,000; \$562,705;		
			\$605,000; \$580,000;		
			\$600,000; \$601,000		

#### 3 BEDROOM

COLUMBIA	\$680,000; \$722,500	SHERMAN I	\$559,900; \$612,000;	WASHINGTON	\$395,500
CROTON	\$540,000		\$725,000; \$689,000;	WESTCHESTER	\$405,000
CROTON II	\$568,000; \$631,000		\$575,000	YORK	\$465,000; \$465,000;
HARRISON	\$375,000; \$450,000	SHERMAN II	\$719,000; \$725,000;		\$500,000; \$525,000;
JEFFERSON	\$425,000; \$400,000;		\$749,000; \$750,000		\$510,000
	\$467,500; \$425,000				

### Can I Help You?

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

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**Thank you, Marti**



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