



Heritage Hills Society Information

Address8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589
Website.....www.hhsociety.org
TelevisionChannel 21

CONTACT INFORMATION – EMAIL

Societysociety@hhsociety.org
Activities Office.....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

Building9 am to 11 pm
Activities Office.....9 am to 5 pm
Society Office.....9 am to 1 pm
Fine Arts CenterGroup instruction and free time are scheduled by the Activities Office at 914-276-2908
LibraryMonday thru Friday 10 am to 3 pm
Saturday 10 am to 1 pm
Fitness Center & Gym...Daily 4 am to 11 pm
Lake Lodge.....9 am to 11 pm
Meadowlark ParkDawn to Dusk
Park PlaceDawn to Dusk

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

Goldens Bridge MetroNorth Station Trips

Morning to/from: (out only) 5:15, 5:45, 6:45, and 7:45 – **Reservation Required**
Evening **PICK-UPS ONLY**: 4:45, 5:35, 6:35, 7:35 and 8:35 – **No Reservation**

Midday Trips – Reservations Required

To/From Activities Center, Lake Lodge, Meadowlark Park, and off site, including Goldens Bridge MetroNorth Station

Outbound, hourly 8:45 am to 12:45 pm

Inbound, hourly 9:10 am to 1:45 pm (last train station pick up 12:45 pm)

To/From Pools 2 thru 5 / Tennis areas

To: 8:45 am (pool 4), hourly, 9:45 am to 1:45 pm

From: Hourly from 9:10 am to 2:10 pm

UTILITIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Comcast 800-934-6489
ConEd 800-752-6633

NYSEG..... 800-572-1131
Verizon 800-922-0204

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

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

Medicare Rights Center – 800-333-4114

EPIC - 800-332-3742

New York State Senior Prescription Reduction

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

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MASKS ARE RECOMMENDED IN ALL SOCIETY BUILDINGS. INDIVIDUAL CLUBS/GROUPS MAY REQUIRE MASKS AND/OR PROOF OF COVID VACCINATION/BOOSTERS TO ATTEND THEIR RESPECTIVE EVENTS, AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING ATTENDEES' PROOF THEREOF.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOSTS OF THE BELOW EVENTS, SEE THE ACTIVITIES / CLASSES / CLUBS SECTION OF THIS NEWSLETTER. WHEN GUESTS ARE WELCOME, UP TO FOUR PER UNIT ARE ALLOWED

CONTINUING ED

Submitted by Rosetta Benson

The following lectures will be presented in person in the Heritage Room. Admission: \$10 paid at the door.

CELEBRATE FREEDOM: READ A BANNED BOOK

Two lectures by Maggie Seligman, Literature teacher and published John Steinbeck scholar

THE CATCHER IN THE RYE, by J. D. Salinger (banned since 1961)

Tuesday, October 3, at 1:30 pm

OF MICE AND MEN, by John Steinbeck (banned in the 1950s)

Tuesday, October 10, at 1:30 pm

The banning of books is currently a very serious issue in our country. The above two classics of American literature still appear on the American Library Association's list of banned texts. Ms. Seligman will discuss the literary qualities of these works and the issues and implications of censorship in a free society. What continues to prompt ongoing attempts to silence these authors' words?

If you have any questions, call Rosetta at 914-277-5217.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2024

Two lectures by Christopher Malone, Ph. D. Associate Provost and Professor of Political Science - SUNY, Farmingdale

WHERE ARE WE ONE YEAR OUT?

Tuesday, October 31, at 1:30 pm

This presentation will focus on historical trends when a sitting President is running for reelection and share insights on what we may expect.

FOCUS ON THE CONTENDERS FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION

Tuesday, November 14, at 1:30 pm

In this lecture Malone will discuss how the nomination process is affecting the Presidential race.

If you have any questions, call Ann at 914-617-9434.



HERITAGE HILLS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

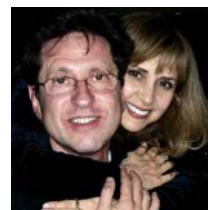
Chair: Gloria Anderson; Editor in Chief: Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi;
Writers/Editors/Photographers: Phyllis Bradbury, Dassi Citron,
Terry Clifford, Cindy Kennedy, Shirley Kesselman, Karl Milde,
Stan Herz Pearlman, Elizabeth Royston, Keri Reitman Schnapper,
Carol Vartuli

CABARET – THE SOUNDTRACK OF OUR LIVES

Featuring Pianist Robbie Kondor and Singer Emily Bindiger

Sunday, November 5, at 2 pm

Robbie Kondor is an internationally acclaimed musician, composer, and arranger for films, TV, and commercials. Singer Emily Bindiger has not only appeared on Broadway in *Shenandoah* and *Hair*, she has recorded dozens of movie soundtracks, including *A Chorus Line* and performed on concert stages worldwide.



If you have any questions, call Ken at 914-617-9817.

* * *



By Jack Mattes

October 7 to December 10

Boxes in which you can place new, unwrapped toys for underprivileged kids will be in the Activities Center Reception Area starting October 1. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, place your check payable to "Marine Toys for Tots Foundation" in an envelope addressed Toys for Tots into that mail slot outside the Activities Office.

On December 9, Santa will be at our special event for residents from 1:30 to 3:30 pm, and a United States Marine Corps representative will be there pick up the toys and checks, Admission cost will be a new, unwrapped toy or a check.

ON THE COVER

Barbara Pollack took the cover photo of wet maple tree leaves on a neighbor's tree after a late September rain shower.

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COMING EVENTS



By Joyce Spector

If you have any questions regarding the following events, call Alan Tepper at 914-342-3279, or email him at astepper@gmail.com.

FREE MOVIE: *IMORDECAI*

Sunday, October 8, at 1 pm in the Activities Center

When Mordecai, a Holocaust survivor portrayed by Academy Award Nominee Judd Hirsch, is given a new iPhone, an unexpected series of events upends his world. This heartwarming Miami-set comedy is based on a true story.

Snacks will be served. No admission charge. Auditorium seating. Reservations should be placed in our mailbox **no later than October 4**. Walk-ins are welcome as space permits.

THE EARLY JEWISH COMMUNITY IN COLONIAL AMSTERDAM AND NEW YORK

Lecture by Dr. Thorin Tritter, Educator and Historian

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

Jews have made New York their home for more than 350 years. Dr. Tritter will discuss the early Jewish settlement in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam and its evolution and growth after the area was taken over by the British in 1664. Where did the Jewish settlers come from? How much antisemitism did they face? What type of community did they establish? Dr. Tritter will draw from a collection of primary sources to answer these questions and give a depiction of early Jewish life in what became New York City.

Dr. Tritter taught American history and studies at Princeton University for six years and served as a Research Fellow at the University of London from 2011-2019. He also served as the executive director of Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics, an independent non-profit (FASPE).

Admission is \$15 per person. Light refreshments will be served. Place your checks in our mailbox along with your name, phone number, and email address **no later than November 9**. If you wish to sit with friends, place your checks in one envelope (maximum seating per table is ten people). Walk-ins welcome as space permits.

* * *



CIAO ITALIA

By Michael Lanotte

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 9, Columbus Dinner for members and non-members.

Friday, November 17, Veterans Dinner for members and non-members.

Saturday, December 16, Christmas Dinner for members only.

Look for flyers, email blasts, and TV notices with all detailed information.

10 A MEN CLUB

By Mike McBride

Wednesdays from 8:30 to 11 am in the Heritage Room

October 4 – Congressman Mike Lawler

Come, listen, and ask your Congressman a question.

October 11 – William Monti, P.E., Nuclear Engineer

Electric Generation, Grid

October 18 – Flo Brodley, Heritage Hills Health & Safety Committee

Medicare Updates

October 25 – Robert Casasanta, Director, Heritage Hills Security

November 1 – Lauren Enea, Esq. and Anthony Enea, Esq.

Elder Care, Asset Protection

All adult Heritage Hills Residents are welcome to the meetings. Women are encouraged to attend and are always welcome. Doors open at 8:30 am. \$2 for bagels and coffee available until 9:45 am. Pledge of Allegiance at 10 am, then speakers and discussions will follow until 11 am. Come join us to meet your neighbors, ask questions, and find out what is happening in Heritage Hills and around Somers. As always, we respect, welcome, and listen to all.

* * *

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

2023 FLU CLINIC AND MEDICATION DROP

Submitted by Leslie Guttman

Wednesday, October 11, from 9 am to 1 pm at Lake Lodge

FLU CLINIC: Once again, we partner with the excellent nursing staff from Northern Westchester Hospital for vaccine administration. There is no need to sign up in advance. We offer Fluarix and Fluzone High-Dose vaccines. Check with your physician as to which vaccine you should be receiving. This will eliminate delay when getting vaccinated. Remember to bring your original (red, white, blue) Medicare card. Others will be billed \$20, which can be submitted to other health insurance companies.

MEDICATION DROP: The Somers Police will be on hand to collect your unwanted medications. However, they are unable to collect your syringes (sharps), nor will they collect any cleaning products.

If you have any questions, call Leslie Guttman at 914-276-0383.

MEDICARE UPDATE

Submitted by Flo Brodley

Open Enrollment for Medicare 2024 will begin on October 15 and end on December 7. The Committee will host two sessions, as follows:

Wednesday, October 18, at 10 am and Thursday, October 19, at 1:30 pm, both in the Heritage Room

Both programs will present the changes in plans and benefits, the differences between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans, information for those who turn 65 this year, and handouts for a variety of Frequently Asked Questions.

TRAVEL CLUB

By Elaine Soliman

A SALUTE TO AMERICA AT LA BELLA VISTA IN WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT

Tuesday, November 14, from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm

Our November trip salutes our beautiful country at the beautiful La Bella Vista in Waterbury, Connecticut. The bus will leave the Lake Lodge parking lot at 10:30 am. Come see a spectacular *All American Variety Show Featuring Joey Arminio and the Family*. The family style lunch will include an Italian antipasto, salad, penne a la vodka, chicken fresca, stuffed filet of sole, potato, veggie, deluxe pastries, and soda and coffee. Carafes of red and white wine will be available on every table.

Our trips fill up quickly and we are limited to 50 people. Payment of \$134 per person is due by **October 13**. Include your unit number and phone number with your payment. Place checks payable to "Heritage Hills Travel Club" in the Club's mailbox in the Activities Center. For reservations, call Elaine at 914-617-9111.

Flyers for this trip are available in the Activities Center.

Cancellation policy, set by Friendship Tours, is: There are no refunds once final payment is made unless a substitute traveler is provided.

* * *

SINGLES CLUB

By Singles Club Board

B00-B-Q

Friday, October 20, at 5:30 pm at Lake Lodge

Catered by Ledley, with music provided by Jimmy Tate, the cost is \$45 for members and \$55 for guests. BYOB. (There may be some Monster Mash!) Leave your checks in the Club's slot at the Activities Center no later than **October 13**. If you have any questions, contact Pat Caruso at 914-276-2224 or Carol Ambrosini at 914-276-7616.

* * *



SOCIETY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday, October 18,
at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

All unit owners are welcome to attend the meeting in person, view it on Channel 21 while in progress, and when rebroadcast daily on that channel at 2 and 7 pm until the next meeting occurs. It can also be viewed on the Society website at hhsociety.org; go to Heritage Hills Society, then choose Board Meetings & Documents.

Owners are welcome to raise matters of concern at the meeting. Those who cannot attend may send an email to society@hhsociety.org, call 914-276-2908, or mail them to Society Board, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. **Provide your name and unit number on written correspondence.**

HERITAGE HILLS RESIDENT ART SHOW

By Terry Clifford

Saturday, October 14, from 10 am to 6 pm

Sunday, October 15, from 10 am to 4 pm



Our resident Art Show is the highlight of the year. Come see the Heritage Room turn into a magnificent gallery of Ceramics, Paintings, Photography, Drawings, Sculpture, Digital Art, Fiber Art, Mixed Media, Needlecraft, Silk Painting, Weaving, Woodcraft and more, all created by our talented residents.

- Demonstrations will occur both days on Silk Fabric Painting, Portrait Sketching, and Loom Weaving.

We look forward to seeing you and your guests at this amazing yearly event.

* * *



BULK PICK-UP

October 14 – Condos 1 thru 15

October 21 – Condos 16 thru 30

Place all items for pickup by your condo trash bins the evening before the scheduled pickup. **The following items are not accepted for bulk pickup:**

Appliances
Automotive parts (tires, etc.)
Batteries of any kind
Concrete, bricks, dirt, gravel
Electric components
Hazardous waste of any kind

Large items exceeding 6' x 4' x 4'
Light bulbs (all types)
Oil (all types)
Photographic supplies/film
Propane tanks
Wet paint
Electronics (all types)

* * *

INDEPENDENT AND FOREIGN FILM CLUB

By Steve Klepner

DELICIOUS

Thursday, October 26, PROMPTLY at 7 pm in the Heritage Room

This French film is set in 1789 France just before the Revolution in a rural fictional dukedom of Chamfort. With the help of a young woman, a chef who has been sacked by his master finds the strength to free himself from his position as a servant and opens the first restaurant in 1700s France.

This film runs 112 minutes. Masks are optional but recommended.

* * *

COMING EVENTS

MUSICAL NOTES FROM THE CONCERT SOCIETY

The best classical music value in Westchester and beyond!

By Teddi Meltzer



MERZ TRIO

Sunday, October 22, at 3 pm in the Heritage Room

Before we settle into our woolies and snuggies for our winter hibernation, the Heritage Hills Concert Society will warm and entertain you with the fourth and final concert of our 2023 season.



The Merz Trio, a celebrated piano, violin, and cello group that we welcome into our Heritage Hills family for the very first time with an unforgettable concert.

Tickets are \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members and guests. Place your check in our mail slot outside to Activities Office or mail it to us at 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. Include your name, phone number or email address, the number of tickets, and performance date. For information, call Helen at 917-554-4417 or Muriel at 914-277-8825.

* * *

FAMILY NETWORK HALLOWEEN EVENTS

Sunday, October 29, starting at 1:30 pm

See the FAMILY FOCUS section in the centerfold (page 20) for details.

* * *

FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

By Deb Ferrara

SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS BINGO

Friday, November 10, at 7 pm in the Heritage Room. Doors open at 6:30

Current Members Only. Don't miss out on another fun night! Feel free to wear your patriotic colors. Coffee and cookies will be served. BYOB.

Because of limited occupancy, be sure to submit your checks as soon as this event is announced on October 1. No walk-ins! Admission is \$10 per person, which includes three Bingo cards for 10 games. More cards will be available for purchase, as will daubers. There will be a 50/50 too!

Deposit your checks in the Friends in the Hills mail slot in the Activities Center with your name, unit number, and phone number. For additional information call Deb Ferrara at 914-0924-3003 or Mary Ann Walrath at 914-318-1227.

WOMEN'S CLUB

Submitted by Phyllis Bradbury

HARVEST LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 15, at 12:30 pm

Celebrate the changing seasons at our Harvest Luncheon at the Southeast Grillehouse on Route 6 in Brewster. Reservations are required. The cost is \$40 for Club members and \$44 for non-members. Include with your check payable to "Women's Club" your name, phone number, and address, and place your envelope in the Women's Club mail slot **no later than November 7**. For a group table, submit all checks and information in one envelope. For more information, see the flyer at the Activities Center or call Joan at 914-276-0488.

* * *

COMMUNITY THEATRE

By Muriel M. Weiss

GOD'S FAVORITE

**Friday and Saturday, November 17 and 18, at 7:30 pm
Sunday, November 19, at 2 pm**

As summer draws to a close, we are back again and ready to entertain you in the Heritage Room. Our November selection, *God's Favorite*, by Neil Simon, one of our favorite authors, is being directed by Frank Rakas.

Tickets are \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members and guests. Checks may be placed in the Community Theatre mailbox outside the Activities Office mailed to us at 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. Remember to include your name, phone number or email address, the number of tickets, and performance date. If you have any questions, call Helen at 917-554-4417 or Muriel at 914-277-8825.

THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE WELCOMES HERITAGE HILLS GROUP / CLUB / COMMITTEE ITEMS AND PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY RESIDENTS.

EMAIL ADDRESS: HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com.

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 in *Word*) or by hand or mail to the Heritage Hills Activities Office at 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, NY 10589.



When Submitting Photos:

If using your phone, use the highest resolution. Unless it's a scenic vista, concentrate on faces. Get closer.

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.

**WHEN WALKING ON OUR ROADS, ALWAYS WALK
FACING TRAFFIC, SINGLE FILE IF IN A GROUP
HUG THE CURB • WEAR BRIGHT CLOTHING**



SOCIETY BOARD NEWS

Compiled by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

JOSEPH "JOE" KELLY APPOINTED TO FILL SOCIETY BOARD VACANCY

The following email blast was posted on September 5:

The Society Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Joseph "Joe" Kelly as a new Board member. He will complete the term of office recently vacated by Annette Bensen, who resigned for personal family reasons. Joe brings expertise in the electrical and telecommunications fields and has extensive experience in the areas of construction renovation and infrastructure maintenance. Joe is on his Condo Board as Maintenance Chair. He and his wife, Carolyn, have lived in Heritage Hills for over three years.

* * *

SUMMARY OF PORTIONS OF THE SEPTEMBER 20 SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

A video of the entire meeting can be seen on the Society's website. The full transcript of this meeting's Minutes will be posted on the website after approval at the October 18 Society Board meeting.

Board members in attendance: Gloria Anderson, Gene Archer, Ann Harper, Dorinda Haskell, Joe Kelly, Jack Mattes, Karl Milde, Patricia Ploss, Bruce Prince, Dom Rubino, Deica Ruiz, Art Singer, Alan Tepper, Carol Vartuli, and Jay Wright

Also attending: Property Manager John Milligan, Heritage Management Services; and Rob Casasanta, Prosecur Security

PRESIDENT DOM RUBINO'S OPENING STATEMENT

Since the last meeting, two Board Members have left us: Annette Bensen, who was with us for many years working on our website and Communications Committee, left for family reasons. Bill Harden, who was our Treasurer, has also left. We wish them both good health and good fortune.

After considering many applicants, we chose (1) Carol Vartuli, [see page 7 of the September issue of this Newsletter], and (2) Joe Kelly, whose qualifications are indicated above.

I want to explain how the Board works. We work like a corporation with Standing Committees. Since we have new Board Members, we have revised our Standing Committees [the list that appeared on page 8 of the September issue of this Newsletter is being revised].

New Board member **Joe Kelly** is leading an ad hoc committee which is overseeing a resident identification card entry system [see page 8]. Joe helps on some other committees.

Karl Milde is Chair of our Security Committee, and also is the Board's representative to our TV station, Channel 21.

Alan Tepper is our new Chair of the Fitness Committee. He is also involved in other committees.

Jay Wright is Chair of our Digital Records Committee, so we can easily search and find items.

Ann Harper is Chair of our Activities Committee.

Dorinda Haskell is the new Chair of our Pool Committee and also handles many special events, including Welcome to Heritage Hills.

Deica Ruiz is the Society Board's secretary and Chair of the Library Committee.

Gloria Anderson is our Second Vice President, Chair of the Newsletter and Legal Committees, and is our Board representative to the Health & Safety Committee.

Gene Archer is Society Board Treasurer, new Chair of the Finance Committee, and Chairs the Insurance Committee.

Bruce Prince is First Vice President and Chairs the Infrastructure and Transportation Committee and the Alternative Energy Ad Hoc Committee.

Pat Ploss, Past President of the Board, Chairs the Landscape and Meadowlark Park Committees.

Jack Mattes Chairs the Audit, Community Affairs, and Emergency Preparedness Committees and runs special events including the Art Show.

Art Singer is familiar with infrastructure and drainage, so he's a member of the Infrastructure Committee.

New Board member **Carol Vartuli** Chairs the Communications and Website Committees.

My job as President is to organize the committees; assign the Chairs; arrange and assign tasks and duties to the Board members; oversee the projects; answer 150 emails a week, if not more; and basically manage the 19 Standing Committees and work closely with John Milligan. Like everyone on the Board, I only have one vote.

FINANCE & BUDGET, COMMITTEE – GENE ARCHER, CHAIR Treasurer's Report – Gene Archer

• **August Financials:**

Income	\$ 521,349.83
Expenses	(571,004.18)
Deficit	(4,9654.35)

The deficit was mostly due to storm cleanup.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE – GLORIA ANDERSON, CHAIR

The Society has contracted with a new publisher for our Newsletter, Halston Media, beginning with the December issue. There will be no difference in the look and content. We welcome resident submissions to HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com.

continued on page 8

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE – ANN HARPER, CHAIR

There will be a new jewelry making class. Watch for an email blast.

WILLOW WOOD GUN CLUB AD HOC COMMITTEE – GLORIA ANDERSON, CHAIR

The Carmel Planning Board has approved an application by the Club to start using a number of clay shooting stations. The Somers Land Trust filed an Article 78 action questioning the Planning Board's approval. There could be a decision around mid-October. Condo 22 had taken considerable action opposing this, as well, spending about \$6,900 mostly on a land survey and soil and water testing. They've asked each Condo to help reimburse them around \$400. The Society Board is donating \$500. [See Post-Meeting Discussion on Page 9.]

FITNESS CENTER COMMITTEE – ALAN TEPPER, CHAIR

We have two professional, highly competent personal trainers. Everyone new to Heritage Hills is entitled to one free half-hour personal training session and will be provided with a workout appropriate to their abilities and needs. For insurance reasons, residents cannot bring into the facility their own personal trainer. The Fitness Center is open from 4 am to 11 pm (not staffed at all times).

SPECIAL EVENTS – DORINDA HASKELL

- **Welcome To Heritage Hills Event:** We had 30 different clubs and activities represented at the September 9 event, which 86 of the 88 registered newcomers attended.
- **Halloween Plans:** [See the Centerfold, page 20.]

MEADOWLARK PARK COMMITTEE – PATRICIA PLOSS, CHAIR

- **Resident Gifts:** There have been two wonderfully generous resident donations.
 - Margaret Kagan of Condo 18 has graciously gifted numerous perennial iris tubers from her personal garden. Thanks to Maxner Landscaping which sent a truck to pick them up and store them at the Maintenance Yard pending planting around the sign at the entrance to the park.
 - Bill Colavito of Condo 23 is donating cherry trees in honor of all who suffer from ALS (unfortunately Bill's wife passed early this year due to ALS). The intent is to plant cherry trees along the mid trail.
- **Trails:** A 430-foot extension of the Warren Trail has been completed. We hope to complete another 140 feet of trail, which will create a loop with another trail.
- **Beehives:** Beekeeper Tom Mittag's hive did wonderfully, so we added another one.

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE – PATRICIA PLOSS, CHAIR

- **Pools:** At Pool 4 some old shrubbery will be replaced with deer-resistant andromeda, and the median will be spruced up. We will be adding some plantings and a tree at Pool 5.
- **Lake Lodge:** Is being painted and there are new chairs in the Lobby.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – JACK MATTES, CHAIR

- **Art Show** [See page 5.]
- **Toys for Tots** [See page 3.]
- **General Election Day:** On November 7, the Heritage Room is the only place Heritage Hills residents can vote.

- **Sustainable Westchester ("SW") / NYSEG:** SW will announce its new rates starting in December. There will be an SW/NYSEG presentation here hopefully early-mid October. Watch for email blasts.

RESIDENT IDENTIFICATION CARD SYSTEM AD HOC COMMITTEE– JOE KELLY, CHAIR

We met and spoke with staff members and residents regarding suggestions. We then met with an access card company and an installation company regarding what needs to be done going forward. We will now review a current client's system.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AD HOC COMMITTEE – BRUCE PRINCE, CHAIR

For Lake Lodge, we looked into using the pond or geothermal as alternative sources and learned it would take 20 years to have the investment returned. What might be worthwhile is a split system requiring no duct work, similar to that at Park Place in Meadowlark Park, as well as adding spray foam insulation to the building.

POOL COMMITTEE – JOAN SOTTILE, COMMITTEE MEMBER

Overall, it was a great year. Our Committee managed a landslide, a number of outages, and general maintenance in an exceptional manner [see Operations Report on page 9]. Thank you to Marcus and the Maintenance Staff for their exemplary work.

SECURITY – ROB CASASANTA, PROSEGUR SECURITY

- **Open Garage Doors:** At night, we ride around and if we see an open garage door, we call as a courtesy to notify the owner. There were 47 in July and 53 in August. [Dom Rubino added that in addition to welcoming theft, an open garage door presents the opportunity for wildlife to enter and do damage or even nest for the winter.]
- **Accessible Parking Spaces:** There was an uptick of Parking Violations due to folks being unaware that former regular parking spaces are now Accessible ones. We affixed orange courtesy parking violation notices to the windshields to remind people parking there without the required plate or placard that those spaces are no longer regular parking spaces.
- **Resident Profiles:** If you don't have one on file, please pick one up at the Security Office, fill it out, and return it. Attached is a Dark House Report form (alerts Security Staff you will be away for an extended period) and temporary entry authorizations with which you should provide an extra key (which we securely store), to avoid the need to break down a door (resident bears the replacement expense).
- **August Security Call Report:**

During the month of August our Security staff received and responded to a total of 251 calls regarding the following matters:

Medical.....	79
Security	66 (53 open garage doors, other security concerns)
Fire	15
Service	53 (including 31 lift assists, 4 persons locked out, and 7 welfare checks)
Maintenance	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents .	2
Parking Violations	22 (in handicapped spaces, fire lanes, A roads, or B roads)

OPERATIONS REPORT – JOHN MILLIGAN, PROPERTY MANAGER

- **Paving:** At a cost of \$243,161, our three separate paving projects will start the first week of October.
- **Tennis:** At a cost of \$116,000, Courts 1 and 2 will be replaced with the current artificial turf, held down with green sand.
- **Fitness Center:** At a cost of \$30,000, we can replace a 20-year-old boiler with two boilers that will run much more efficiently.
- **Shuttle Bus:** We have a two-bus fleet. One is approaching 75,000 miles, and we get more for trade-in than doing so later (\$20,000), so we can replace it at a net cost of \$73,533, requiring at \$10,000 deposit. If we place an order now, we will get it next March.
- **Road Lines:** At a cost of \$38,500, we will replace 13 miles of yellow road lines as well as the yellow lines and lettering on the speed humps.
- **Prosecur Security:** Our contract will expire at year-end. Thanks to astute Society Board member negotiations, in principle we've agreed on a contract price going forward at a 3% *reduction* for 2024.
- **Pools:** At Pool 4, after the mudslide, we drained the pool, our Maintenance staff removed the mud, and it was restored to usefulness in a few days. We had to replace four pool heaters at a cost of \$10,000 to \$12,000 each, and a pump at a cost of \$11,000. These expenses were not budgeted. Efforts were made to mitigate the water leakage at Pool 4. At Pool 3, we hope to get Health Department approval to replace equipment and install it before next season.
- **July Storms road damage.** To repair the damage, we spent \$138,000.
- **Accessible Parking.** The orange courtesy notices Rob Cassasanta mentioned will be discontinued shortly, and the Town of Somers Police will be invited to ticket cars parked there that don't have the required plates or placards.
- **Fitness Center:** We are finally going to put on the roof of the Fitness Center the air conditioning units ordered last October.
- **Meadowlark Park:** In addition to the trail extensions Patricia Ploss mentioned, we've acquired a tetherball set and installed it by the horseshoe pits.

NEXT SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, October 18, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room.

* * *

POST-MEETING DISCUSSION

- **Willow Wood Gun Club:** Go to the video on the Society Board website and/or Channel 21 daily at 2 and 7 pm to see the presentation by Jack Stein, Condo 22 Vice President, in which he gives an easy-to-follow explanation of the background, current situation, plans going forward, and how we all can help.
- **Pools.** One resident discussed the fact that only one pool was open after Labor Day and asked that the following prior policy be restored - Pools 1 and 4 be open and, in addition, Pool 3 on weekends. Another resident discussed that for people with disabilities, Pool 1 is not as accessible as Pool 4. At Pool 1, it's a much longer distance to

Pool 1 from the parking lot, uphill; the bathrooms are difficult to get to; and the water fountain is far away.

- **Friends In The Hills Club.** The Co-Presidents indicated they have to cap their events at 138, but the sign on the wall of the Heritage Room indicates a maximum capacity of 200 people. They prefer 150 to 155 people. They were advised the capacity is based on Fire Department requirements based on the configuration for use - that tables and chairs take up "people space" and there are "aisle space" requirements for emergency access.
- **Sidewalks.** A resident inquired about the lack of sidewalks. She was advised that the Society does not own any of the land the roads are on; it just maintains the A and B roads which are owned by the Condos, which would be responsible to install sidewalks.

* * *

COUNCIL OF CONDOS

By Terry Clifford

Condos attending the August meeting: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30.

Dave Jacobsen, Supervisor of Security was awarded a formal "Council Resolution" for his twenty-four years of professionalism, and leadership in molding the community's security service into a resource for emergency medical assistance, safety, and security which has saved the lives of many Heritage Hills residents in the years he has been a part of our community. He is leaving Heritage Hills to accept new challenges and a well-earned promotion.

Willow Wood Gun Club Update: Condo 22 sent a letter to the gun club saying they would notify the gun club's insurance company to pay the cost of Condo 22 ground pollution remediation. The letter also stated law enforcement would be notified if the new shooting stations posed a danger to Condo 22 residents. The 1986 Condo 17 prospectus indicated the Builder took legal action with the New York State Supreme Court for damages and injunctive release regarding noise and danger from stray shots. However, the case was decided in favor of the gun club.

CAI (Community Association Institute) Presentation: The event was a success for the 16 Board Members who attended and the 8 who participated online.

Responsible Exit for Board Members: Council President, Louise Squitieri, requested Council Members recommend strategies to ensure leadership continuity when an officer or board member leaves. Condos have various ways of providing continuity by encouraging participation from unit owners with unique qualifications. It was suggested we supply leadership books published by CAI to our Heritage Hills Library and encourage board members to avail themselves of these books.

A Town Code Compliance Committee has been reinstated. Louise Squitieri, Amy Heyman, and Terry Clifford have volunteered to be part of

continued on page 10

this committee. The committee communicates with the Somers Town Building Department and the Town Board on behalf of our Condo Boards.

Variance Forms and Procedures: The Town Building Inspector is asking for a Variance Form for hot water heaters, however the plumber may check the box saying, "Variance Form Not Required." Condos are seeking answers as to what needs and does not need a variance and how do you follow up on the variance. You may issue a "stop work" order on a unit which is either not in compliance with the variance or not approved by the Board of Managers.

Vendor Directory: The Council has produced a non-vetted contractor directory for many years. Contractors do not pay to appear in the directory. The Condo fees paid to the Council offsets the cost of compiling the list and printing the directory. The members of the Council present at the meeting voted in favor of producing another non-vetted "2024-2025 Contractors Directory." However, notification on the directory suggests using consumer.westchestergov.com for more information on each contractor.

Please send a member or representative of your Condo to the Wednesday, October 18, Council meeting at the Activities Center, Heritage Room at 7 pm.

* * *

WALKING ON HERITAGE HILLS ROADS

By Karl Milde

Walking with a dog or a partner (sometimes both) can be treacherous if not done properly, whether you're on a public road or on one of the A and B roads here in Heritage Hills. The famous author Stephen King was injured by a distracted driver while he was walking on a Maine roadside. Fortunately, he lived to write about it.

As you're out walking, think of this acronym: **S C A T**

S is for walking **SINGLE FILE**. Preferably always, but certainly when you see an oncoming motor vehicle. It's courteous to the driver, who needs to gingerly pass you by, and also a safety measure for yourself. The driver may not be alert or may even be distracted (like the guy who hit Stephen King).

C is for wearing **CLOTHES** that are bright. Red or yellow would be best; brown and black are a no-no, especially at dawn or dusk. If you're going to walk in the dark carry one of those hand lights that shine brightly both forward and back.

A is for being **ALERT** for oncoming motor vehicles in both directions. A bell should ring in your mind when you see or hear one. The driver may give you a wide berth, but don't count on it. Assume the driver is distracted.

T is for walking **TOWARD TRAFFIC**. Walk on the left side of the road so you can see the traffic that comes toward you.

Rather than walking Heritage Hills roads, check out Meadowlark Park, where you'll find trails designed just for walking (some easy, some

more difficult), nice scenery, above all, none of those darned motor vehicles.

* * *

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES

By Jack Mattes

Somers has 3 emergency shelters in our system if you must leave your home. The primary one is the Activities Building at Heritage Hills. The secondary one is Somers Middle School on Route 202, and the tertiary one is Lincoln Hall School on Route 202.

Some suggestions to help you prepare for emergencies are:

- Plan a place to meet if your family becomes separated.
- Always keep your vehicle's fuel tank above the 1/2 tank mark.
- Keep a first aid kit and emergency supplies in your home - and a smaller kit in your vehicle.
- Keep some cash on hand for emergencies (banks may not be accessible).
- Keep written notes with contact information for doctors, relatives, etc.
- Keep written notes with phone numbers, account numbers, and passwords.

At a minimum, it is recommended everyone have:

- Fresh bottled water on hand (3 gallons or more per person).
- LED flashlights and extra batteries (do not light candles when power is out).
- At least a two week supply prescription medications.
- A mobile phone charger that plugs into your vehicle.
- Supplies and foods for pets, infants, persons with special needs.

For additional resources and to sign up for CodeRed, go to these links:

- Town of Somers CodeRed Notification: somersny.com/resources/emergency-preparedness
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): ready.gov
- New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG): nyseg.com/outages
- Westchester County Emergency Services: westchestergov/indian-point/having-a-go-bag

* * *

THE #1 CAUSE OF HOME FIRES / INJURIES

Submitted by Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Security

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the number one cause of home fires and home injuries is cooking fires, and the leading cause of fires in the kitchens is unattended cooking. By following a few safety tips, you can prevent cooking fires:

- If you are **sleepy or have consumed alcohol**, don't use the stove or cooktop.
- **Stay in the kitchen** while frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food.
- **Regularly check** simmering, baking, or roasting food, remain in the home, and **set a timer** to remind yourself that you are cooking.
- **Keep away from the stove** anything that can catch fire.

Marc's Clockworks

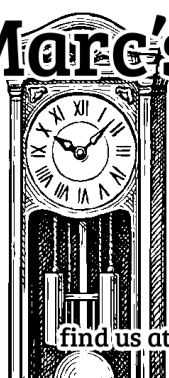
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HLibrary

HISTORICAL FICTION

This month the Library is adding several new historical novels by acclaimed authors. *The Fraud*, by Zadie Smith, centers on a trial in Victorian London involving a butcher who claims to be the rightful heir to a great estate. Cashel Greville Ross, the protagonist of William Boyd's panoramic novel *The Romantic*, is a nineteenth-century everyman whose global adventures take him from Waterloo to Zanzibar. In *The Vaster Wilds*, by Lauren Groff, a servant girl in 1600s Virginia flees a colonial settlement during a bitter winter.



NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION IN OCTOBER

To reserve any of the books listed below, please stop by or call the Library at 914-276-7655.

Fiction

Atkinson, Kate	<i>Normal Rules Don't Apply</i>
Boyd, William	<i>The Romantic</i>
Groff, Lauren	<i>The Vaster Wilds</i>
Mangan, Christine.....	<i>The Continental Affair</i>
Smirnoff, Karen.....	<i>The Girl in the Eagle's Talons</i>
Smith, Zadie	<i>The Fraud</i>
Weiner, Jennifer	<i>The Breakaway</i>

Mystery

Brown, Sandra.....	<i>Out of Nowhere</i>
Cleeves, Ann.....	<i>The Raging Storm</i>
Feeney, Alice	<i>Good Bad Girl</i>
Jance, J. A.	<i>Blessing of the Lost Girls</i>
Knoll, Jessica.....	<i>Bright Young Women</i>
Krueger, William Kent.....	<i>The River We Remember</i>
Osman, Richard	<i>The Last Devil to Die</i>
Patterson, James, and Swierczynski, Duane.....	<i>Lion & Lamb</i>

* * *

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Source: OKMLS, 1/1/22-12/31/22, total dollar volume of single family homes and condominiums sold by Agent, Somers school district



By Diane Purr, Commissioner

LEAGUE FINAL RESULTS

This year we had 11 teams competing in 14 games in very hot and sticky weather. We only had to postpone one match due to "orange air" and had a few close calls with rain cancellations. But everyone persevered and a good time was had by all.



The winners of First Place, above, were the "KATS" captained by Reno DiCristofaro and Ben Martinez with team members Ralph Gronbach, Ed Kirschenbaum, Virginia Nolte, Lucille Piro, Steve Mathew, Joe Brown, and Steve Mathew.



The winners of Second Place, above, were the "CUGINI" team captained by Mike Ferrara and Pam Arena with team members John Zeiss, Joan Jendras, Emilia Liteplo, Joe Occhiogrossi, Tony Ferrara, Jean Scorzelli, and Tina Volpe.

We hope to see old and new faces next year!

* * *



*Mushroom Golf Ball,
by Karl Milde*

EAST HILL MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

By Ken Freeman

After four months without a single rainout of our weekly Tuesday and Thursday golf tournaments, we suffered two rainouts in a single week, on August 15 and 17. But the rest of August was active, including the club's annual Ryders Cup team match competition, fashioned after the professionals' annual Ryders Cup tournament between America's and Europe's best golfers. Reflecting humility, our teams were appropriately dubbed the Hackers and the Duffers:

The Hackers included A players (our better golfers) – Captain Yogi Santa-Donato, Captain Bob Briganti, Bill Glass, Dan Lanza, Phil Glazer, and Charlie Barrett; and B players ("the rest of us") – Ed Sottile, Frank Gallo, Howard Weiner, Vin Marrone, Al Zaffiro, and Bob Kenney.

The Duffers included A players Captain Frank Servidio, Ccaptain Ed Yee, Ira Komitee, Ray Ormerod, Bob Slotoroff, and Tom Recca; and B players Charlie Kravetz, John Mahoney, Nick Stanton, Sandy Lieberman, Rich O'Brien, and Jack O'Hanlon.

After ending the first round on July 27 tied at 2-1/2 points each, the Hackers pulled away on August 3, amassing 4 match points to the Duffers' 1 point. The Hackers then clinched victory on August 10, picking up 6-1/2 points for the day to the Duffers' 4-1/2 points, for a total tournament Hackers win at 13 match points to 8 for the Duffers.

Other August tournament results, standard stroke play unless indicated otherwise, were:

August 8: A Flight: Low Gross – Yogi Santa-Donato; Low Net – 1st Charlie Barrett, 2nd Tom Recca. **B Flight:** Low Gross – Vin Marrone; Low Net – 1st Bob Kenney, 2nd Jim Haggerty, 3rd Ed Sottile.

August 22 (A & B Players Combined): Low Gross – Joel Greenspan; Low Net – 1st John Mahoney, 2nd Jim Haggerty, 3rd Al Zaffiro, 4th Bill Glass.

August 24 (Par 3 A/B Teams Blind Draw Tournament): 1st Bob Slotoroff and John Mahoney, 2nd Yogi Santa-Donato and Rich O'Brien, 3rd Frank Servidio and Bob Kenney, 4th Ed Yee and Howard Weiner.

August 29: A Flight: Low Gross – Bill Glass; Low Net – 1st Ed Yee, 2nd Tom Recca. **B Flight:** Low Gross – Vin Marrone; Low Net – 1st John Mahoney, 2nd Ray Ormerod, 3rd Al Zaffiro.

August 31 (Alternate Shot Team Tournament): 1st Ray Ormerod & Frank Gallo, 2nd Tom Recca & Rich O'Brien, 3rd Charlie Barrett & Frank Servidio, 4th Bob Slotoroff & Ed Sottile.

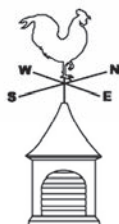
Club members also enjoyed a luncheon in the Lake Lodge on August 31, ending with a putting contest in which each contestant had 3 chances at a roughly 12-foot putt. Four contestants made all three putts in the first round (Phil Glazer, John Mahoney, Tom Recca, and Al Zaffiro), necessitating follow-up rounds between those top performers. Tom Recca finally emerged as the winner in the 4th round, narrowly beating Al Zaffiro.





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ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED IN ALL SOCIETY BUILDINGS. INDIVIDUAL CLUBS/GROUPS MAY REQUIRE MASKS AND/OR PROOF OF VACCINATION/BOOSTERS TO ATTEND THEIR RESPECTIVE EVENTS AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING ATTENDEES' PROOF THEREOF.

GENERAL CLUB/CLASS INFORMATION AND REGULARLY OCCURRING ACTIVITIES

Produced by the Activities Office

Phone: 914-276-2636 or go to Activities at 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 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. To register, call Judika at 914-438-6750.

Needlecraft Group: Charitable needlecraft group meets Wednesdays at 12:30 in the Game Room. All skill levels welcome. \$10 annual dues. Proof of vaccination is required. For questions, or to register, call Linda at 914-277-2776 or Ginger at 914-617-9058.

Paint & Sip with Judika: 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 creative spirit! To register, call Judika at 914-438-6750.

Sketch Workshop: Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 am in Activities Center's Studio A. Portrait figures, still lifes. Bring your choice of paper, pen, pencil, watercolor, pastel, etc. Models are welcome to pose or 20 minutes (clothed!). No fee, no teacher, but guidance available.

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

Woodcraft Club: The shop at the Activities Center 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.

CIAO ITALIA

If you wish to become a Ciao Italia member, Membership Forms are available outside the Activities Office. Watch for flyers and TV notices announcing upcoming events. Ciao Italia membership is open to all Heritage Hills residents.

CLUB SHALOM

You don't have to be Jewish to love Club Shalom. Our Club is dedicated to providing quality entertaining and educational Jewish cultural programs for the residents of Heritage Hills. Watch for information about upcoming events. All residents are welcome.

CONCERT SOCIETY

We present four classical concerts each year in May, June, September, and October on Sundays at 3 pm in the Activities Center's Heritage Room. We feature the best and brightest of classical music's rising stars. The annual subscription rate is \$80 per person or pay \$23 at the door per concert. Subscription forms are at the Activities Center. If you have questions, call Raina Lefkowitz at 914-262-4407.

CONTINUING ED

Our mission is to educate and entertain with monthly presentations by experts in the fields of art, literature, music, theater, history, and politics on specified Tuesdays at 1:30 pm in the Activities Center's Heritage Room. For more information, see the COMING EVENTS section of this Newsletter or call Ann at 914-617-9434.

CULINARY CLUB

We meet for dinner in the Activities Center once a month on a Wednesday evening at 6 pm. If you are interested, contact Barbara Gangemi at 914-617-9037.

DANCE

Friday Night Social Dance. The first Friday of every month from 7 to 10 pm in the Activities Center's Heritage Room. \$10 per person includes coffee and cake. BYOB. For more information, call Ami at 914-486-9677.

EXERCISE

Tai Chi & Chi Gong with Master Ellen. Monday from 12:30 to 1:30 pm in the Gym. \$70 per month. First class free. All levels welcome. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing. Contact heritagehilltaichi2@gmail.com.

Vinyasa Yoga with Joe. Saturday at 9:30 am in Lake Lodge's Upper Level. \$12 per class. To register, email Joe Ferrari at josephferrari@me.com.

Linda's Lake Lodge Classes: Body Conditioning: Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 am. **Dance & Sweat:** Tuesday at 9:30 am. **Barre Pilates:** Thursday at 9:30 am. **Sports Conditioning (new):** Sundays at 9 am. All classes are \$10 per class. Register at the start of the month for the classes you plan to attend. Contact Linda Zeiss, instructor, at Labzeiss@gmail.com or 718-541-0861.

Gentle Yoga with Lisa. Monday at 1 pm and Friday at 10 am in Lake Lodge's Upper Level. \$12 for a 75-minute class. Lisaathomas@optonline.net or 914-497-0243.

Cardio/Strength/Stretch Class with Lori. Join me for a fun, safe, effective workout. Low impact cardio, resistance training, balance, stretch and breath work— all set to great music! Appropriate for all levels. Resistance bands and weights available. No mats needed. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 am in the Gym. Fee: \$10 per class. Try the first class for free! *Class also available on Zoom. Email Lori at lamb428@optonline.net.

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 in Lake Lodge with Satish Gambhir, Registered Yoga (500-RYT) and acupressure teacher with over 20 years of experience. \$10 per class. Call or email to register at 914-646-0887 or Satishgambhir@gmail.com.

Chair Zumba/Toning with Theresa. Monday at 9:45 am by Zoom only. Zumba for anyone who prefers a seated workout. Contact Theresa for more information at zumbawithme@aol.com.

Getting Back on Track (15-15-15) with Theresa: Wednesday at 10:30 am at the Fitness Center and on Zoom. Light cardio and balance, functional strength and stretch, and restorative breathing and relaxation. Great class to begin or continue your fitness journey. Contact Theresa for more information at zumbawithme@aol.com.

Lyrical Arms Class with Theresa: Friday at 10:50 am at the Fitness Center and on Zoom. 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.

Move and Groove with Theresa: Tuesday at 12:30 pm in the Fitness Center and on Zoom. Easy-to-learn and easy-to-follow Beginner Line Dances to ALL music genres. Contact Theresa for more information at zumbawithme@aol.com.

Zumba Gold with Theresa. Friday at 10 am in the Fitness Center and on Zoom, and Saturday at 10 am on Zoom only. Fun, easy to follow, low impact dance fitness class. Contact Theresa for more information at 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.

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP

Meets the last Friday of the month at Lake Lodge in room 1 from 10 to 11 am. Members should have a basic knowledge of French conversation but need not be fluent. Refresh your French language skills and laugh and learn with us. If you have any questions, call Sandy Wohlberg at 914-617-2063.

FUN & GAMES

Bridge—Duplicate: Plays Monday and Thursday at 12:30 pm in the Activities Center—**vaccinated only.** For information, call Marie at 914-277-4266.

Friends in the Hills Club. Open to all adult Heritage Hills residents. Each meeting will be a night of fun and socializing with your neighbors. See the COMING EVENTS section of the Newsletter for event details. Email us at Friendsinthehills@aol.com with any questions or contact Debe Ferrara at 914-924-3003 or Mary Ann Walrath at 914-318-1227.

Mah Jongg: Plays Monday at noon in Lake Lodge and Wednesday at noon in the Activities Center (space is available—contact Sue Furino 914-617-9110); Friday at 1 pm in Lake Lodge (contact Olga LaBoy at 914-276-2646); Tuesday and Thursday from 11 am to 1 pm (we are at full capacity and are only taking people for the waitlist at this time. Call Rebecca Fierro at 914-669-5328 for further clarification).

Ping Pong: Plays Thursday at 10 am in the Activities Center's Game Room. Open to all residents. Come hang out and play!

Scrabblers: Casual Scrabble game play on Thursday from 1 to 3 pm in Room 2 in the Activities Center. All levels of play, including newbies, are welcome. For more information, just walk in or contact Susan at 914-617-9228 or ciwhitestar@comcast.net.

Chess Club: We are a group of chess enthusiasts who enjoy coming together to play some friendly games of chess! Beginners are welcome! Wednesdays from 1 to 3:30 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 3. Bring your chess set if you have one. Some playing pairs may choose to use a chess clock; bring this, also, if you have one. For more information, contact Pat Posluszny at patpugs@comcast.net or 914-276-6550.

GARDEN CLUB

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

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Blood Pressure Screenings With a Smile: Nurse Ellie Eidam offers screenings and good advice on the second Friday of the month from 9 to 11 am in the Activities Center's Game Room. Your temperature may be taken. Mask-wearing is voluntary. Do not come if you have tested positive for Covid-19, were recently exposed (within 14 days) to the virus, or traveled to areas that have experienced high levels of the virus. Contact Ellie at elliebob1@gmail.com or 914-617-2109 for more information.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Support Group: Caring for someone with Alzheimer's/Dementia is a difficult and painful challenge. A support group can help. Meetings take place the first Thursday of the month at 12:30 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 1. Fee: \$20 per session. Facilitated by Linda Ludwig, PhD. To register, call 914-617-9328 or email 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. Meetings take place on the second Thursday of the month at 12:30 pm in the Activities Center's Game Room. Fee: \$20 per session. Facilitated by Linda Ludwig, PhD. To register, call 914-617-9328 or email ludwiglr@aol.com.

Senior Entitlements Program-Westchester County: Watch the COMING EVENTS section of this *Newsletter* for communications about upcoming sessions.

HIKERS & WALKERS GROUP

Weekly hikes from September to June. Information and our schedule are available at hhsociety.org / Activities / All Activities / Hikers and Walkers.

INDEPENDENT AND FOREIGN FILM CLUB

Monthly screenings in the Activities Center's Heritage Room, followed by a discussion. April thru December. \$20 for the series. Schedule is posted in the Activities Center and on the Society website. For information, contact Steve Klepner at 845-297-7066 or spk010@yahoo.com.

LIBRARY

Open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 3 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm. For information on the collection, visit the Heritage Hills Library webpage at hhsociety.org or call 914-276-7655.

MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussion group on current event topics. Meets Monday from 9:30 to 11 am in the Activities Center. For information, email Ken Benjamin at kenbenja@aol.com or call 914-617-9817.

RAINBOW CONNECTION CLUB

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

SINGLES CLUB

If you are interested in joining the club, please contact Olga LaBoy at 914-960-9796 or laboyiolga@yahoo.com. Membership dues are \$12 per year.

SPORTS

Bocce Group: April through October: Wednesday and Saturday at 9:30 am.

East Hill Men's Golf Association: 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.

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@Outlook.com. See you on the courts!

Shuffleboard Group: October through March on Wednesday from 1 to 3 pm, and on Saturday from 9:30 am to noon, in the Gym.

Tennis Group: All Tennis reservations are now made via www.playtomic.io, or you can download the playtomic app, which offers many additional features. Once on the playtomic website, type "Heritage Hills" and click on "tennis" as the sport choice. For general information about the tennis group, call Dena at 914-589-3560. The Friday night Round Robin runs from May through September.

10 A MEN CLUB

Come to the Activities Center's Heritage Room Wednesday at 9 am and have continental breakfast for \$2. The meeting starts at 10 am.

TRAVEL CLUB

Our mission is designed for those who enjoy traveling, whether the destinations are nearby or far away. All details are handled by the Group. Buses leave from and return to Heritage Hills. Information on our trips is available on flyers in the Activities Center, on TV, and in this Newsletter.

WOMEN'S CLUB

The Women's Club meets at 1:30 pm the second Wednesday of the month, except for January, July, and August. The Board meets the first Tuesday of the month in the Activities Center. See the COMING EVENTS section of this Newsletter for specific upcoming event details. We welcome new members! Dues for renewals and new members are just \$12 for the year. Place your check in an envelope and include your name, unit number and phone number and insert in the Women's Club mail slot. For additional membership information, call Membership Chairperson Alfreda Savarese at 914-617-2007. Please join us.

WRITERS WORKSHOP CLASS

Workshop on *Google Meet!* Monday at 1 pm and Saturday at 10:30 am in Lake Lodge. Email Linda Spear, workshop facilitator, to arrange to join us! Lindaspear211@gmail.com.

A photograph of two elderly women with white hair, smiling and laughing together. The woman on the left is wearing a yellow sweater and a pearl necklace. The woman on the right is wearing a patterned sweater. They are positioned in front of a window with sheer curtains, and the lighting is warm and soft.

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**I loved
making
new friends.**

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WP HOSPITAL
physician
associates

FAMILY NETWORK HALLOWEEN EVENTS

By Dawn Martino

Sunday, October 29, starting at 1:30 pm

Calling Heritage Hills residents of all ages! Save that date for the 1st Annual Heritage Hills Community Halloween Trunk or Treat and more.

Trunk or Treat will occur in the upper Meadowlark Park parking lot from 1 to 3:30 pm. Then we'll have light refreshments and games in the Heritage Room (large room) at the Activities Center. Watch for email blasts and posts on the Family Network Facebook page regarding registration forms and more details!

With the holidays fast approaching, we will be collecting non-perishable foods to donate to our local food pantry.

Photos of our young residents in costume should be emailed to keri.reitman@gmail.com for publication in the November issue of this Newsletter.

* * *

THE HUDSON VALLEY HUMAN RIGHTS & HOLOCAUST COMMISSION STUDENT LOGO CONTEST

Submitted by Steve Ucko

We are proud to announce a contest open to all Heritage Hills students 18 or younger for the design of a new logo for the Hudson Valley Human Rights & Holocaust Commission (HVHRHC), formerly the Somers Holocaust Memorial Commission, which was founded in 1997 by Heritage Hills resident Fred Bachner, a Holocaust survivor. The winner will be awarded \$200, and the design will be used for print and web media for future HVHRHC communications and general publicity. The deadline for submissions is November 1.

REQUIREMENTS

1. HVHRHC remains resolved to educating young people about the Holocaust and other human rights violations, hoping to inspire in them a commitment to ensure that such violations are never repeated again. So, consider images that represent tolerance, inclusiveness, human rights, global awareness, diversity, freedom, dignity, justice, equality, the Holocaust.
2. Art needs to be reproducible for print and web use. Designs should be no larger than 7" x 7" at 300 DPI (dots per inch)
3. High quality JPEG, PDF and PNG files will be accepted.

Submit both black-and-white and color versions digitally in CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Key) to somershol@icloud.com, as well as printed, to Post Office Box 189, Purdys, New York 10578.

The winning design will be announced on November 16 when we celebrate the International Day of Tolerance at the Hammond Museum at 28 Deveau Road in North Salem. Please be sure to attend! Questions should be emailed to Susan Moyer a somershol@icloud.com.



2nd Grader **LUCAS ANAYA**, by Vanessa Aanaya

Pre-Kindergarte

FIRST DAY
OF SCHOOL
Some of our
young residents,
happy about going
to school.

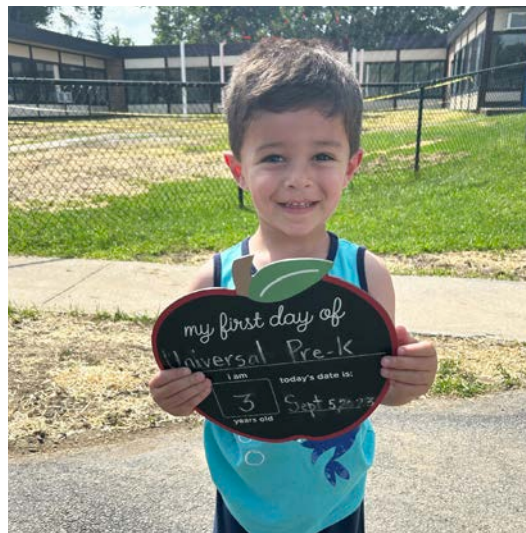
Photos compiled by Keri Reitman-Schnapper



OLIVER and ALEX DONES, by Kate Dones



ener **DANNY GIARRO**, by Susan Giarro



Pre-Kindgartener **LEO WEINSTEIN**, by Rebecca Weinstein



4th Grader **JEYREN BUSTAMANTE**, by Virginia Rodriguez Fernandez



2nd Grader **ARIA SHARMA**, by Isha Sharma



2nd Grader **GABRIELLA ANAYA**, by Vanessa Anaya



SOPHIA MARACALLO, KARINA and EMMA ARROYO-VALENTIN, and ALEX SCHNAPPER, by Javier Arroyo



Pre-Kindgartener **GIULIANA DEMAIO**, by Lydia Demaio

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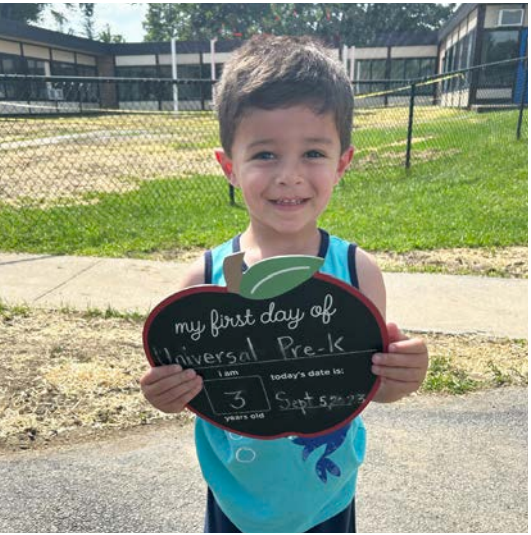
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Pre-Kindergartener **DANNY GIARRO**, by Susan Giarro



Pre-Kindergartener **LEO WEINSTEIN**, by Rebecca Weinstein



4th Grader **JEYREN BUSTAMANTE**, by Virginia Rodriguez Fernandez



Photos compiled by Keri Reitman-Schnapper



2nd Grader **ARIA SHARMA**, by Isha Sharma



2nd Grader **GABRIELLA ANAYA**, by Vanessa Anaya



OLIVER and ALEX DONES, by Kate Dones



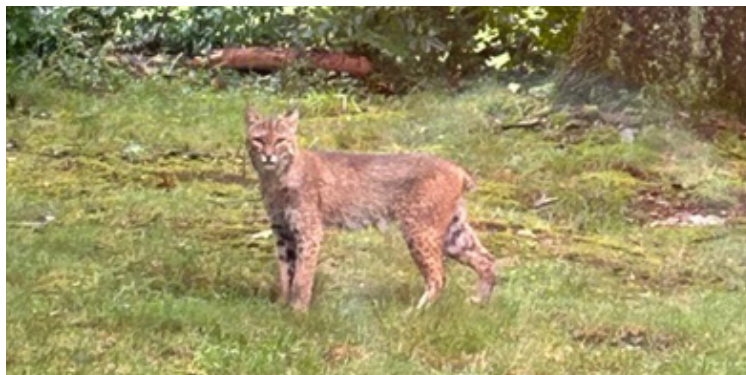
SOPHIA MARACALLO, KARINA and EMMA ARROYO-VALENTIN, and ALEX SCHNAPPER, by Javier Arroyo



Pre-Kindergartener **GIULIANA DEMAIO**, by Lydia Demaio

HELLO, BOB!

Did you know that Cindy Bergman had this visitor behind her Condo 13 unit at around 11:30 am on September 18?



NOW YOU KNOW!

* * *

SOMERS SENIOR SERVICES

For information on services and classes in addition to the following, see page 2 or call 914-232-0807.

OCTOBER SHOPPING TRIPS

Submitted by Barbara Taberer, Director

No more than four trips per month per shopper. Two bags per shopper. A \$2 donation per shopper is recommended. Bus pick-ups start at 10 am, you have 1-1/2 hours shopping time, and you return home early-to-midafternoon. Bus drivers provide assistance onto and off of the bus using a stepstool and handling mobility devices or using the wheelchair lift. They carry your bags to your door. An aide may accompany the rider. To make your reservations, call 914-232-0807.

MONDAY

October 2WalMart

October 9No Trip

October 16.....Danbury Mall

October 23Dollar Tree (Mahopac)

October 30Target

FRIDAY

October 6No Trip

October 13.....ShopRite

October 20Carlucci's

October 27ACME (Corlandt)

NOW YOU KNOW!

* * *

BURKE REHABILITATION EXPANSION

By Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

Expansion of Burke Rehabilitation into the space formerly occupied by Subway at Somers Towne Centre will commence in October and hopefully be complete by March, if not sooner.

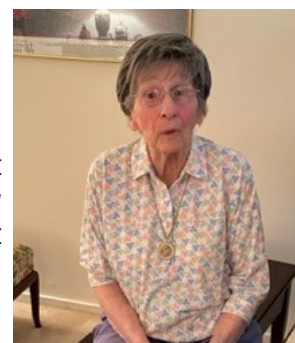
The reception area will be relocated to that space, directly in front of which is an accessible parking space and curb cut.

NOW YOU KNOW!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR, PHYLLIS LEVENSON

Text and photos by Karl Milde

When I went to visit Phyllis Levenson at her home on the West Hill, I didn't know what to expect. I'd been told only that she was "remarkable and inspiring" and she would be 100 years old in October. This diminutive woman with a twinkle in her eye answered the doorbell and graciously invited me in, led me to a tastefully furnished parlor, suggested I sit in a comfortable lounge chair, and sat down opposite me on a settee. On a table to my right was a plate with a variety of freshly baked pastries.

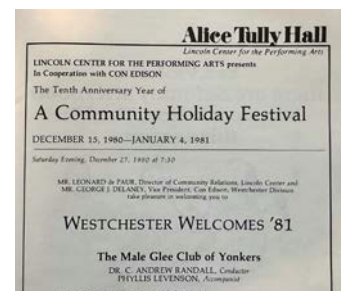
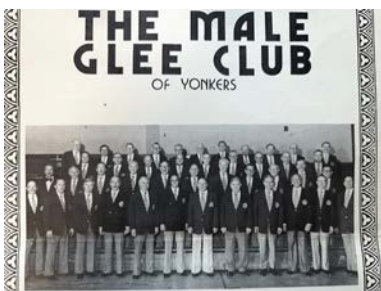


During the next hour I sat spellbound, listening to her talk about her life. Her memory was razor-sharp with dates and details, so much so that I filled a dozen pages of my legal pad with notes. Fascinated at learning she was an accomplished pianist, I asked her to play, so she invited me into to her large living room where she kept her Steinway grand piano. Her professionalism with the piano was absolutely astounding.

In the end, there was no way I could write a short article about this very special, elegant lady. Her life could perhaps best be described in a full-size book or better yet several volumes of books. But the salient facts are these:

Phyllis was born on October 11, 1923. Now, 100 years later, she has two children, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. She was born, raised, married, and raised her two children in the city of Mt. Vernon with her husband "Rob," where they remained residents until they moved to Heritage Hills in 1988.

Phyllis had dated Rob upon his return from active duty in the Army in 1946, and they married a year later. Her father once told her, "It takes two to make an argument, and I don't argue." She and Rob followed this sage advice and enjoyed a long, wonderful marriage. Rob passed away in 1998.



Educated at Skidmore with a major in music, Phyllis continued her music studies in New York City. An accomplished pianist, she served as accompanist with the Male Glee Club chorus in Yonkers, performing

in two concerts each year and continually adding both classical and popular music to her repertoire. The Music Director there called Phyllis “Our touch of class.” In 1980 she performed with the chorus on “Westchester Night” in Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center.

As a pianist, Phyllis became a fan of Stephen Sondheim and they corresponded from 1994 until Stephen died in 2021. Here at Heritage Hills, Phyllis played popular music on the piano for the tap-dancing group “Heritage Hill Tappers” during their shows as well as at their ice cream social. After years of volunteering at Hospice and “Friends of Karen,” Phyllis continues to be active.

For example, until not so long ago she volunteered at the Heritage Hills Library. She also does her own house-cleaning and still drives her stick-shift Volkswagen. She also climbs eight steps to reach her front door. Could that be her secret to staying young?

* * *

GOLFERS VS. GEESE

By Stan Herz Pearlman

In August a Putnam County publication ran a story about a golfer arrested on the course for beating a goose. I never even knew that geese played golf!!!

That reminded me of an incident that took place last year. As reported by the *Palm Beach Post* at that time, in a gated community in Miramar, Florida, a group of homeowners, citing the geese as “loud pooping machines,” decided to do something about it. They hired a company to eliminate the problem with an ingenious plan. The company owner said that he would feed the birds bread laced with a sedative, and then remove them to another far off site (Heritage Hills?). The geese would never know.

Unfortunately, after he fed them lunch, the birds were spooked by a car horn and took off. Groggy from the sedative, they were not fit to fly and dropped into a lake where they haplessly squawked in full view of the residents.

A “silent segment” of the community saw the birds as majestic creatures and upon witnessing the chaos, they attacked the company’s owner. He had to call the police in order to protect himself, fearing his goose would have been cooked. He could have invoked Florida’s *Stand Your Ground Law*, but he was only armed with a sedative.

It would not be such a stretch if lawsuits are now filed by either side and the courts have to rule on the rights of the birds to poop where they please. However, much to the chagrin of both factions. Miramar officials sent a letter to the community association saying that the city is a bird sanctuary and it is illegal to molest any bird within its limits. The residents could now all face heavy fines.

The salient point is, if community people cannot agree on resolving the Goose Poop issue, what can they agree on?

* * *

MICHAEL LANOTTE, PRESIDENT, CIAO ITALIA

Text by Shirley Kesselman, photo by Michael Lanotte

Michael and his wife, Linda, moved to Heritage Hills in 2006 from South Salem, where they had lived for 25 years. They decided it was time to downsize. As they had friends living here, they bought a unit in Condo 23. “It was one of the best things we ever did,” says Michael.

Michael graduated from the High School of Industrial Art, attended New York Community College and the School of Visual Arts, and worked in advertising as a graphic designer for ad agencies and studios prior to joining Reader’s Digest in 1968 as an Art Editor. Eventually he was promoted to Senior International Art Editor. In his positions at the United States and international editions, Michael designed articles. He organized publication dates for the International Division which afforded him the opportunity to travel to a number of Reader’s Digest offices overseas – London, Paris, Milan, Lisbon, Helsinki, Stockholm, and Amsterdam, to name a few. When circumstances allowed, Linda would join him for travel. After a fulfilling 28 years, Michael retired from Reader’s Digest.

Once at Heritage Hills, the Lanottes joined old and new friends attending the many social events in this community. Michael became active in the affairs of his Condo 23, serving for over ten years as its President. In 2009 he was invited by the President of Ciao Italia to join its Board, and this year he became the club’s President. Michael plays bocce with friends and golfs here, walking the course. He regularly attends 10 A Men and Council of Condo meetings. The Lanottes have a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

Michael enjoys using his artistic skill for Ciao Italia, producing all their flyers and posters. He volunteers design work for the Knights of Columbus at St. Joseph’s Church. Friends sometimes call on him to design a poster for a special occasion such as an anniversary or birthday celebration. “That’s my hobby,” he elaborates.

Ciao Italia has just celebrated its 30th anniversary. It is open to all Heritage Hills residents. Dues are \$12 per year. The organization holds monthly events from April thru December. Each year a dinner to celebrate Columbus Day and a Christmas dinner is held.

In addition, dinner/dances are popular. Other events might be a movie or a trip. Entertainers such as singers or a comedian could be engaged. All programs are decided upon jointly by the Board. Michael says, “The Board members are fantastic. They put in a lot of effort to make sure our events are the best they can be.”



continued on page 24

FEATURES

Michael and the Board are particularly proud of the 50-50 raffle held at Ciao Italia gatherings, as the proceeds go to a scholarship fund, for which a Somers High School counselor provides the names of possible recipients and the Board votes to decide who will receive a scholarship based on an essay about the student's Italian background and his/her college plans. Last year the club gave three \$500 scholarship awards.

* * *

PICKLEBALL EVENTS WOODSTOCK REVIVAL

Submitted by Denise Elliott



Pickleball is a very social as well as competitive sport, and our players always enjoy each other's company, as seen here!

Woodstock Hippies filled the Heritage Room on August 25. More than 120 pickleball players and some guests celebrated with their Woodstock wardrobe, sharing food and drinks, and filling the dance floor!



LADIES NIGHT

In addition to two weekly ACES competitions and social Round Robins for both Intermediates and Advanced players, at our September 1 Friday Ladies Night the courts were filled with 28 of our women players, with food and beverages, and lots of fans!

If you wish to play pickleball and join our awesome players, email PickleballHH@outlook.com. Include your Unit number and phone number and we'll reply ASAP!



AS SUMMER PASSES

Text and photo by Pat Headen

When summer began, the plant pictured here had ten-inch stems which had been cut down over the winter. Growing like a Jack-and-the-Beanstalk, it reached its final height by the beginning of August.



This ten-foot-tall gentle giant – a relative of the Hibiscus family – is called the “Lord Baltimore.” It has dinner plate sized blossoms, each of which only lasts a day; but they are so abundant they can be seen from a distance.

By October it's time to cut the Lord Baltimore down to ten inches again and wait for another glorious year. It does very well in a southeastern exposure here in Heritage Hills.

* * *

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THE DONALD M. KENDALL SCULPTURE GARDENS AT PEPSICO

Text and photos by Karl Milde

If you've never visited the PepsiCo Gardens, it may be because of the limited hours. They are open to the public, free of charge, only on weekends, and only between 10 am and 4 pm.

The PepsiCo Gardens, officially "The Donald M. Kendall Sculpture Gardens," are the brainchild of the late Donald Kendall, the former Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo, who in 1965 had the PepsiCo World Headquarters built on a 168-acre property in Purchase, New York, and surrounded it with landscaped gardens. To enhance these gardens, he commissioned works from modern sculptors the likes of Auguste Rodin, Henry Moore, Alexander Calder, and Alberto Giacometti. These artists tried to outdo each other, creating 45 enormous outdoor pieces of sculpture.

Pepsi is one of the few corporations to seriously invest in modern sculpture, and the result is this impressive collection meant to "exist in harmony on [the] carefully tended landscape." Both parking and admission to this landscape are entirely free to the public.

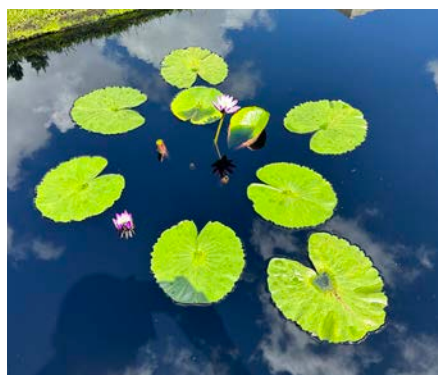
On a sunny summer Sunday, my wife, Cheryl, and I started down the walking path that meanders in a large loop all the way around the property. The entire walk took about an hour and a half.



We soon came upon a statue by David Wynne of a huge Grizzly Bear.



Continuing on we came upon and admired three larger-than-life totem poles.



Along the way, we came upon large reflecting pools adorned with lily pads. Space in this Newsletter does not permit more than one photo of the many we took of this enchanting area.



Occasionally we ran across a sculpture that seemed to make no sense.

But occasionally the sculpture rang a bell with us.



Near the end of our long walk, we came across a shiny brass sculpture that stood tall and demanded we take photographs.

If you go, and we highly recommend you do, take note that the Gardens have no picnic area. You can bring water, but food is not allowed. The good news is you can picnic to your hearts content on the SUNY Purchase campus right across Anderson Hill Road from the Gardens.

POETRY

FALL POEM

By Helen Reiss

I missed the Harvest Moon the other night
The heavy clouds kept it out of sight

The seasons change, Fall is here
We'll miss the summertime, I fear.

It's good to have changing seasons
We live here, that's one of the reasons

We enjoy each season and each tree
Westchester is a good place to be.

* * *

HAIKU FOR OCTOBER

Verse and photo by Sue Shea

A bold riot of color
Greets us all around HH
On our ponds and hills





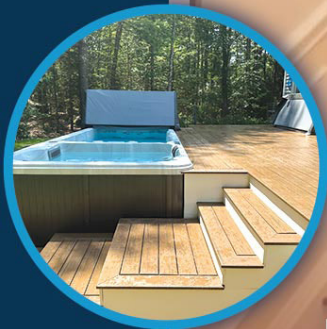
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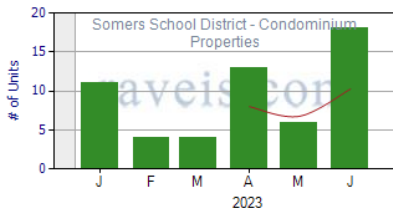
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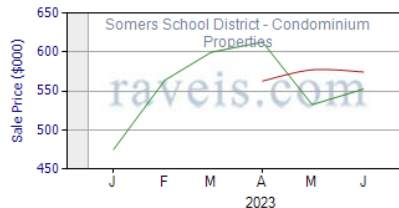
Unit Sales

Number of homes sold.



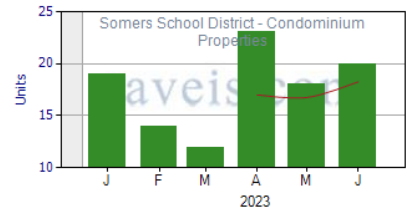
Median Sales Price

Median means 'middle'. There are an equal number of homes priced above and below the median.



Total Inventory

Number of homes on the market at the end of the month.



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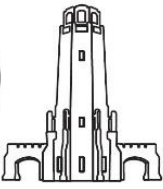


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THE BOOK SHELF

By Cindy Kennedy

This past year, several fiction writers have infused their novels with characters and storylines of classic works. Barbara Kingsolver, for example, won a 2023 Pulitzer Prize for *Demon Copperhead*, a modern-day version of Charles Dickens' iconic *David Copperfield*. *Tom Lake*, Ann Patchett's latest novel, is a nod to *The Cherry Orchard*, Russian playwright Anton Chekhov's most famous drama.

Set in a Michigan cherry orchard, *Tom Lake* begins in early 2020, just as the global pandemic was emerging. Lara and Joe, owners of the aptly named Three Sisters Orchard, anticipate a difficult year: "It was an anxious spring for the world, though from our kitchen window it played out just as every spring in northern Michigan; wet and rainy and cold followed by a late heavy snow, a sudden warm spell, and the spectacle of trees in bloom."

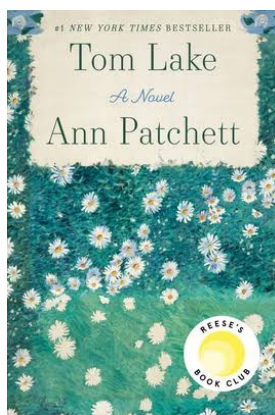
The couple's three 20-something daughters return to the orchard to help their parents through the crisis. Emily, the oldest, is engaged to a local farmer and she doesn't mind "being trapped with my family on an orchard while the world goes up in flames." Middle daughter Maisie, studying to be a veterinarian, uses her skills to help ranchers. When Nell, the youngest sister, is summoned home from college, she chafes at the isolation on the orchard.

With few seasonal laborers available during the shutdown, the five family members work long hours at their cherry orchard. To pass the time, the three sisters implore their mother Lara to tell them about her early romance with the celebrity actor Peter Duke before he made it big in Hollywood.

Lara had starred in high school and college theater productions of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, perfecting the lead role of Emily Webb. In 1988, when she was 24, the budding actress was offered the part of Emily in a summer stock production of *Our Town* at Tom Lake, a regional theater in Michigan. Among the performers at Tom Lake was Peter Duke, a charismatic and handsome up-and-coming actor. Lara agrees to tell her daughters segments of her relationship with Duke, "knowing full well that the parts they're waiting to hear are the parts I'm never going to tell them." Intrigued, the three sisters urge their mother to reveal more.

Tom Lake, like Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*, is brimming with reflective dialogues between its characters. Acclaimed actress Meryl Streep, who voiced the *Tom Lake* audio book, is the perfect choice to read a novel that's ripe for a theatrical presentation.

(Note: *Tom Lake* is part of Heritage Hills Library and Somers Library collections. For a list of new books at the Heritage Hills Library, please see page 11.)



HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

HOME PICKLING 101

By Karl Milde

Do you love pickles? There are dozens of different flavors you can select from barrels at a summer festival or in jars at your favorite grocery. I love to try them. Those I found at a Jewish delicatessen in New York City were my favorite.

Wouldn't it be fun to make your own? You can!



In my Garden Column in the September issue of this Newsletter, called "Home Canning 101," I mentioned the USDA publication *Complete Guide to Home Canning*. This manual not only provides step-by-step instructions for canning various fruits, vegetables, meats, and berries; it also devotes an entire chapter on *pickling*: pickling cucumbers to make... well, *pickles* - bread-and-butter pickles, dill pickles, sweet gherkin pickles or whatever other type you might like. The book explains

how to pickle *all kinds* of vegetables, from asparagus to zucchini. Best of all, you'll learn that pickling is much simpler and easier to do than canning.

Here's the procedure for pickling cucumbers to make dill pickles:

Start with four or five pounds of fresh cucumbers, preferably thin ones. Wash and cut them into one-eighth inch thick slices. Stuff these slices into sterilized canning jars (actually any heat-proof jar will do), filling the jars to about half inch from the top, leaving room to completely cover the cucumbers with your pickling liquid.

Next, to prepare the all-important pickling liquid, combine the ingredients in a large steel or cast-iron pot. Here's where you can get creative to make pickles with whatever flavor you want. Vary the ingredients and you will vary the taste. For dill pickles, combine:

- 1 cup distilled white vinegar
- 1 cup water
- 1-1/2 tablespoon pickling salt (different from table salt and Kosher salt)
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 or 3 garlic clove
- 1 tablespoon peppercorns

You can add other ingredients, like onions, chili powder, or even jalapeno pepper, if you wish to add heat.

Bring the liquid mixture to a roiling boil until everything dissolves. Let the mixture cool a bit and, when it's safe, ladle it into the cucumber-filled jars. Close the lids on the jars and let them cool.

As a final step, insert three or four sprigs of fresh or dry dill weed in each jar. Reseal the jars and place them in the refrigerator. A month later open a jar and taste one of your pickles. It may not be perfect, but you've done it! Once you've made your first set of pickles, you'll be inspired to do it again, and next time they'll taste even better.

Thought for Food

By Elizabeth Royston

The theme for the September Culinary Club dinner was the Coronation of King Charles III of England, and we therefore chose English recipes, some specifically created for Coronations. I was asked to make a Traditional English Trifle, a luscious confection.

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH TRIFLE

8 to 10 servings

PREPARATION

INGREDIENTS

Syrup

1 cup water
1 cup granulated sugar
4 tablespoons Sherry (optional)

Custard

2 cups heavy cream
5 egg yolks
1/3 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon Vanilla
2 teaspoons Cornstarch

For Layering

2 11-ounce Sara Lee all-butter pound cakes
1/2 jar raspberry jam
2 cups fresh raspberries
2 cups blueberries

Topping

1-1/4 cups heavy cream whipped to soft peaks*
Cadbury's chocolate flakes, or
2 oz. grated milk chocolate

Syrup: Boil 1 cup sugar and the water together in a small saucepan for 5 minutes or until the sugar melts and forms a light syrup. Add the sherry, if using.

Custard (Shortcut: prepare 2 packages of vanilla pudding): Bring the heavy cream to a boil in a large saucepan. In a separate bowl, blend the egg yolks, 1/3 cup of sugar, vanilla, and cornstarch. Pour the hot cream over the egg mixture, whisking constantly until all the cream is added. Return the mixture to the saucepan and continue to stir over low heat until well blended. Cool slightly before pouring over the cake.

Assembly:

1. Cut the pound cake into 3/4 inch slices and sandwich the slices together with a lavish layer of raspberry jam. Lay the cake sandwiches in a single layer across the bottom and slightly up the sides of a large glass bowl.
2. Cut leftover cake into squares. Spread the fresh raspberries, cake squares, and blueberries in layers to show off cake and berry layers.
3. Pour the warm syrup over the layered pound cake and berries.
4. Top with custard and refrigerate until the custard is chilled and set.

SERVING

Immediately when serving spoon the finished whipped cream over the top of the custard and decorate with the chocolate.

*Consider adding a stabilizer to the whipped cream like WHIP IT by Oetker.

FIT-BITS

By Mary Tedesco

SOME SIMPLE FITNESS TIPS

1. KEEP A FITNESS/WELLNESS JOURNAL

It has been proven that when you track your own progress in life you tend to do things more consistently and with more energy. Track your workouts every day and track what you are eating on a daily basis.

2. EAT THE RAINBOW

It's very simple...eat foods that are closest to their natural state, like whole, fresh fruits and vegetables.

3. AVOID PROCESSED FOODS

There are a lot of negative side effects to eating processed foods. We usually find out at a later date how much havoc the processed foods you ate have caused on your body. Ask yourself, "Do I really want to put this in my body?" "Is it a food that will benefit my body?"

4. INCLUDE STRENGTH TRAINING IN YOUR WORKOUTS

Add some sort of muscle building exercises two to three times a week. This could include resistance bands, push-ups, planks, and squats or free weights.

5. HYDRATE

Hydration is key to your health. Be sure to drink eight 8 ounces glasses of water daily; your cells will be happy.

* * *



Chipmunk in the Feeder, by Susan Williams

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WILLIAM RAVEIS • Katonah	\$6.6M
RE/MAX CLASSIC REALTY • Somers	\$5.9M
COLDWELL BANKER • Katonah	\$3.2M

Source: OKMLS, 1/1/2023 – 8/31/2023, Condominiums, total volume sold by office, city/town Somers

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Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences vary depending on severity of hearing loss, accuracy of evaluation, proper fit and ability to adapt to amplification. *Our hearing test and video otoscopic inspection are always free. Hearing test is an audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. These are not medical exams or diagnoses nor are they intended to replace a physician's care. If you suspect a medical problem, please seek treatment from your doctor. **If you are not completely satisfied, the aids may be returned to the store of purchase for a full refund within 45 days of the completion of fitting, in satisfactory condition as determined by Miracle-Ear. Fitting fees may apply. See store for details. †Limited warranty, see store or miracle-ear.com/warranty for details. Not valid on Level 1 Solutions. ††Cleanings and in-office service are always free. See store for details.



MARTHA "MARTI" LOWENFELD

Real Estate Associate Broker Broker, CRS, SRES

Cell: 914-420-1850 Home: 914-277-4350
email: mlowenfeld@houlihanlawrence.com

Total units sold by OneKey/HGAR MLS agents from 1/1/2023 to 9/10/2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020
TOTAL SOLD	73 (\$320,000-\$810,000)	115 (\$276,000-\$876,000)	89 (\$275,000-\$725,000)	73 (\$227,500-\$670,000)

Various units sold by MLS agents from January 1 to September 10, 2023

1 BEDROOM

FRANKLIN	\$350,000; \$340,000; \$350,000	GUILFORD	\$370,000; \$425,000; \$437,000; \$440,000; \$462,500	RADCLIFFE	\$540,000; \$499,000; \$550,000
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2 BEDROOM

ARMONK	\$640,000; \$429,900; \$530,000; \$590,000	KATONAH	\$499,000; \$415,000	STANFORD	\$759,000
COLGATE	\$475,000; \$549,000	KENT	\$532,500; \$500,000	STRATFORD	\$450,000; \$455,000; \$750,000; \$649,000; \$555,000; \$600,000; \$670,000; \$555,000; \$450,000
CONCORD	\$450,000	LINCOLN	\$376,000; \$373,000		
FAIRVIEW	\$500,000	MADISON	\$419,000		
HAMILTON	\$320,000; \$350,000	MONROE	\$440,000; \$445,000		
HANOVER	\$577,500	PUTNAM	\$439,000; \$450,000	STRATFORD II	\$675,000;
HARVARD	\$720,000; \$730,000; \$739,000	RIDGEFIELD	\$455,000	SYRACUSE	\$649,000
JACKSON	\$374,000	SALEM	\$610,000; \$485,000	WELLSLEY	\$485,000

3 BEDROOM

COLUMBIA	\$810,000	CROTON II	\$680,000; \$680,000; \$760,000	SHERMAN I	\$715,000; \$700,000; \$612,500; \$740,000; \$730,000; \$754,000 \$550,000
CROTON I	\$650,000; \$687,500; \$675,000 ; \$685,000	JEFFERSON	\$580,000; \$610,000; \$575,000	YORK	

STILL A GREAT TIME TO SELL

Our low inventory and the number of people looking to live in Heritage still shows that the demand for homes in our community is very high. Most units that are listed and are in good condition will receive multiple offers. They go into contract quickly and close when it is convenient for both the seller and buyer.

I love what I do and along with many other Realtors have buyers who want to live here. If you or anyone you know is thinking of selling, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to provide you or them with a comparative market analysis (CMA) and answer any questions about sales for a particular model. Please feel free to call my **cell phone** at 914-420-1850 or text or send an **email** to mlowenfeld@houlihanlawrence.com

Thank you,
Marti

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