



THE OFFICIAL
Heritage Hills
Newsletter

OCTOBER 2024



Heritage Hills Society Information

Address 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589
Website www.hhsociety.org
Television Channel 21

CONTACT INFORMATION - EMAIL

Society society@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
Society Fee
Financial Office 914-276-2509

EMERGENCIES 9-1-1

Hours of Operation

Activities Center

Building 9 am to 11 pm
Activities Office 9 am to 5 pm
Society Office 9 am to 1 pm
Fine Arts Center Group instruction and free time are scheduled by the Activities Office at 914-276-2908
Library Monday 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 Park Dawn to Dusk
Park Place Dawn 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 **NYSEG** 800-572-1131 **Water/Sewer (Veolia)** 877-426-8969
ConEd 800-752-6633 **Verizon** 800-922-0204

SERVICES FOR SENIORS

TOWN OF SOMERS SENIOR SERVICES - 914-232-0807

Princess Guerra, 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, for appointments between 10:30 am to 2 pm
Suggested round-trip donation: **\$10**

Shopping Trips by Bus

Mondays and Fridays, pickups start 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 Kobroce, 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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845-208-8151 - freeman@halstonmedia.com - HalstonMedia.com
Contact Brett Freeman for advertising in any of our publications or online.

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



Starting Early October

Boxes in which you can place new, unwrapped toys for underprivileged kids will be in the Activities Center Reception Area starting early October.

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" and put it in into that mail slot outside the Activities Office.

Next month, we'll announce when in December Santa will be at our special event for residents from 1:30 to 3:30 pm in the Heritage Room. On that day, a United States Marine Corps representative will be there to pick up the toys and checks. Admission cost will be a new, unwrapped toy or a check.



10-A-MEN CLUB

By Mike McBride

WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesdays at 10 am in the Heritage Room

- October 2 Congressman Mike Lawler**
- October 9 Rob Casasanta - Heritage Hills Security Scams**
- October 16 Flo Brodley, Heritage Hills Health & Safety Committee Medicare Update**
- October 23 Princess Guerra - Somers Senior Services Available Programs**
- October 30 New York State Assemblyman Matt Slater**

All adult residents are welcome. Women are encouraged to attend. Doors open at 8:30 am. \$2 admission. Bagels and coffee are available until 9:45 am. Folks mingle and chat between 8:30 and 10 am, when the Pledge of Allegiance is said. That is followed by speakers and discussions 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.

HERITAGE HILLS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Chair/Editor in Chief: Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi
 Writers/Editors/Photographers: Patricia Adams, Rosetta Benson, Phyllis Bradbury, Dassi Citron, Terry Clifford, Cindy Kennedy, Karl Milde, Elizabeth Royston, Keri Reitman Schnapper, Carol Vartuli



If you have questions regarding the following events, call Alan Tepper at 914-342-3279 or email him at astepper@gmail.com. Walk-ins are welcome as space permits.

A LIFE IN PICTURES AND STORIES WITH IRA BERGER

By Alan Tepper

Sunday, October 27, at 1 pm in the Activities Center

After working as an electrical engineer on nuclear submarine navigation, Ira embraced the 60s "do your own thing" vibe and became a professional photographer. Later, he was advised by *People Magazine* to find his own stories, which it later published. His assignments included Jimmy Carter in the Oval Office, Dolly Parton, Big Bird, and shoots with Andy Warhol, Elizabeth Taylor, Pele, and many other celebrities. After years of traveling, he put down his cameras and became a photo editor for *Star* and then *People Magazine*.

After retiring he resumed his interest in photographing religious rituals and published a book called *The Bell in the Crown*. His next project was documenting religious diversity in Brooklyn and Queens, photographing Jews, Sikhs, Hindus, Buddhists, Muslims, and Christians. He jokes that by being amidst such rich diversity he was living on the pages of *National Geographic*.

Admission is \$15 per person. Light refreshments will be served. Place your check(s) in our mail slot **by October 23** along with your name, phone number, and unit number. If you want to sit with friends, put all checks in one envelope (ten people per table maximum).

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ON THE COVER

Joan DeFrancesca took this photo of a Raven welcoming her at the entrance to Pond View.

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PETER CALO AND ANNE CARPENTER – A CABARET ACT



By Joyce Spector

**Sunday, November 10,
at 1 pm in the Activities Center**

Carol King and Paul Simon, two songwriting giants, created some of the most endearing and lasting music of all time. Anne Carpenter and Peter Calo visit their immense library of music, performing classics and deep tracks from the likes of such giants.

Peter Calo has been Carly Simon's guitar player and backing vocalist for the last 20-plus years. He has also performed with James Taylor, Hall and Oates, Leonard Bernstein, and Andrea Bocelli, just to mention a few.

Anne Carpenter has been present on the New York scene for the past decade and has been performing with Peter for the past seven years.

Admission is \$15 per person. Light refreshments will be served. Place your check(s) in Club Shalom's mail slot **by November 5** along with your name, phone number, and unit number. If you want to sit with friends, put all checks in one envelope (ten people per table maximum).



CONTINUING EDUCATION

By Karen Baker

The following events will take place in the Heritage Room. Admission is \$10 per event, paid at the door. If you have any questions, call Ann at 914-617-9434.

FREE CABARET *AUTUMN'S EMBRACE*

Emily Bindiger and Robbie Kondor, Musical Duo

Sunday, October 6, at 2 pm

Acclaimed musicians Emily Bindiger and Robbie Kondor return to Heritage Hills with another wonderful cabaret performance! Emily is a vocalist, songwriter, arranger, and recording artist who has performed on Broadway as well as TV. Husband Robbie is an Emmy award-winning musician, composer, and arranger. Together they will entertain us with a program focused on welcoming the new fall season!

CLASSIC AMERICAN NOVELS

**Two Lectures by Maggie Seligman,
Professor of Literature and Writing Professional**

BILLY BUDD: INNOCENCE BETRAYED

Tuesday, October 15, at 1:30 pm

Published posthumously, Herman Melville's novel *Billy Budd* is a brief but profound work which explores the nature of justice, official stories

("fake news" versus truth), persecution, closeted homosexuality, good versus evil, relationships between fathers/sons/siblings, and a myriad of other ideas. From all perspectives, *Billy Budd* is a complex novel that retains importance and relevance for readers today.

THE PEARL: A PARABLE OF THE PRESENT

Tuesday, October 22, at 1:30 pm

John Steinbeck's deceptively simple novel takes the reader far beyond considering its didactic elements and offers a penetrating look at racism, greed, religion, exploitation, predator versus prey, and the individual versus society. Readers of *The Pearl* cannot help but draw parallels between aspects of today's world and Steinbeck's literary landscape and characters.

THE 2024 ELECTION

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

PRE-ELECTION ANALYSIS

Tuesday, October 29, at 1:30 pm

One week to go before the Presidential Election, the contours of the race will have taken shape. This presentation will focus on the state of the race based on current and historical trends as we move into the election's final stages. The race for Congress will also be discussed.

POST-ELECTION ANALYSIS

Tuesday, November 12, at 1:30 pm

With the outcome of the election now secured, the race's historic character cannot be denied. This presentation will break down the election outcome in detail, focusing on who won, who lost, why – and what it means for the future of the country.



HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

FLU CLINIC & MEDICATION DROP

Submitted by Leslie Guttman

Wednesday, October 9, 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. We offer the Fluarix and Fluzone High-Dose vaccine. 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. Those who don't do so will be billed \$20; the receipt can be submitted to other health insurance companies.

There is no need to sign up prior to the clinic date.

Medication Drop

The Somers Police will be on hand to collect your expired or unwanted prescription medications in order to provide for their safe disposal. Note that they are unable to collect your syringes (sharps)/needles; nor will they collect any cleaning products, covid test kits, or any liquids (including cough medicines), or medical tubing or other supplies. The Somers PD states "We are not equipped to take hazardous materials or home chemicals. So, for example, we do not accept insecticides, pesticides, or drain cleaners." (Most over the counter medications including ointments and creams may be disposed of in household trash.)

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

**PROTECTING YOUR HOME:
MEDICAID TRUST PLANNING FOR
YOUR MOST IMPORTANT ASSET**

Submitted by Rosemary Glassman

Wednesday, October 30, at 1:30 pm in the Activities Center

How do we plan to protect our assets from estate recovery by the government? Financial eligibility for Medicaid usually involves the legal transfer of assets. In this session Alan Feller, Esq., will focus on critical aspects of Elder Law, including estate planning and strategies for safeguarding one's home and assets, which is quite relevant for many of us residents.

* * *

WOMEN'S CLUB

Submitted by Phyllis Bradbury

UNITED FOR TROOPS PRESENTATION

Wednesday, October 9, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

We are pleased to have Jim Rathschmidt, a Shrub Oak resident and the originator of *United for the Troops (UFT)*. Jim will be introducing his valuable organization and the background of why it was formed, its mission, and how it supports United States military personnel (our Troops), which is very interesting and enlightening. He is hoping we'll have many questions which he'll be happy to answer.

There is a Wish List provided by UFT for items our Troops are very much in need of. No items are large, so we're hoping all members will participate. This list will be available in the Activities Center and will be posted with the flyer. The importance of UFT is to provide supplies to our troops around the world; We ask that attendees bring to this event one or more of the items on this Wish List.

HARVEST LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 13

Join us for our second annual Harvest Luncheon which will be held at the Southeast Grille in Brewster. Look for the flyer for more information and registration.

TRAVEL CLUB

By Elaine Soliman

**I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY
WHITNEY HOUSTON TRIBUTE SHOW
AND BUFFET LUNCH**

Friday, November 15, from 10:15 am to 5:15 pm

Come join the Travel Club at the Nelson Hall Performing Art Center in Cheshire, Connecticut, following lunch at the Elm Park Dining Room.

We will be leaving Lake Lodge by motor coach to attend a special tribute to Whitney Houston. *Soul Train* award winning vocalist Nicole Henry sets the stage ablaze with this electrifying new theatrical event overflowing with excitement and elation. It gives the audience two divas for the price of one. You will think Whitney is in the room as Nicole performs!

A preshow buffet lunch served in the Elm Park Dining Room includes salad; chicken francaise, scrod provincial, pasta primavera; vegetables; desert; and coffee.

Cost is \$139 per person. **By October 10**, include your unit number and phone number with a check payable to "Heritage Hills Travel Club" and place it in the Club's mail slot in the Activities Center. To make a reservation, call Pam Arena at 914-276-4295. Flyers are available in the Activities Center.

Cancellation policy : No refund once final payment is received, unless a substitute traveler is provided.

* * *

INDEPENDENT AND FOREIGN FILM CLUB

By Steve Klepner

THE DRESSMAKER

Sunday, October 13, at 7 pm in the Heritage Room:

(Australia, 118 Minutes, 2015.) A comedy-drama. A *femme fatale* returns to the town from which she was exiled 25 years ago to take care of her ailing, mentally unstable mother. She seeks revenge.

As the film is long, it will start promptly at 7 pm. A discussion, led by Bill Costanzo, retired film studies instructor, follows the screening.

* * *

MEDICARE UPDATE

*Co-sponsored by
the Health & Safety Committee
and 10-A-Men Club*

Wednesday, October 16, at 10 am in the Heritage Room

This year there will be only one Medicare Update meeting, and this is it!

Fall Open Enrollment runs from October 15 through December 7 each year, during which time you can make changes to your health insurance coverage – including adding, dropping, or changing your Medicare coverage.

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COMING EVENTS

Even if you're happy with your current health and drug coverage, this is the time to review what you have, compare it with other options, and make sure that your current coverage still meets your needs for the coming year.

For those approaching 65 years of age, this Medicare Update may answer a great many of your questions.

* * *



TED TALKS AT HERITAGE HILLS

By Karl Milde

Friday, October 18, from 3 to 5 pm in the Heritage Room

Join hosts Ami Stokhamer and Karl Milde, both Heritage Hills residents, as they lead open discussions after viewing each of the following insightful, thought-provoking videos:

- *Why Joy is a State of Mind* - Angélique Kidjo and Femi Oke
- *Life lessons from Beethoven's Symphony No. 9* - Benjamin Zander

This event is FREE for all residents. Light refreshments will be served. For further information, call Ami at 914-486-9677 or Karl at 914-342-3068.

The next TED Talks event will be held on Friday, November 15.

* * *



CIAO ITALIA

Submitted by Michael Lanotte

COLUMBUS DAY DINNER

Friday, October 18

For Members and Non-Members. Pick up a flyer containing all the information outside the Activities Office.



VETERANS DAY DINNER

Friday, November 15

Celebrating those who Served. For Members and Non-Members. Flyers containing all the information will be available outside the Activities Office at the end of October.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Saturday, December 21

Members Only. Flyers containing all the information will be available end of November.



BULK PICK-UP

Saturday, October 19 - Condos 1 thru 15
Saturday, October 26 - 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:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aerosol cans | Demolition/Construction materials |
| Appliances | Flourescent bulbs |
| Asbestos | Liquids |
| Batteries | Medical Waste |
| Chemical products | Propane tanks |
| Computers | Tires |

And, of course, hazardous, toxic, radioactive, corrosive, highly flammable, explosive, biomedical, or infectious waste are not accepted.

* * *

CONCERT SOCIETY

By Teddi Meltzer



The best classical music value in Westchester and beyond!

SOHEIL NASSERI, PIANIST

Sunday, October 20, at 3 pm in the Heritage Room



Don't do it! Don't settle down for your long winter's nap just yet. We still have one more excellent Concert Society performance to enjoy when celebrated pianist Soheil Nasserri returns with a program of Mozart, Chopin and Leonard Bernstein! Come enjoy the last concert of the season, and only then can you dig

your winter woolies out of cold storage.

Tickets are available at the door - \$26 per person.

Subscription forms for our 2025 Season are at the Activities Center. Take advantage of bonus gift certificates by renewing or subscribing by December 31.

If you have any questions, call Teddi at 914-277-1418 - but not before 9 am!

* * *



SOCIETY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday, October 23, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

All unit owners are welcome to attend the meeting in person. The meeting will be broadcast on Comcast's channels 21 and 1070 while in progress and will be rebroadcast daily on those channels 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 in person at the meeting. Residents 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. They will be discussed at the end of the meeting. **Provide your name and unit number on written correspondence.**

* * *

SINGLES CLUB

By the Singles Board

B00-B-Q

Thursday, October 24, at 5 pm in Lake Lodge

Ghosts and goblins and witches, Oh My!! Catered by Ledley. Wear orange and black or a costume if you dare! \$45 for members/\$50 for non-members. BYOB.

If you have any questions, call Pat Caruso at 914-649-3232.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Thursday, December 5, in the Heritage Room

Sit-down dinner and music by Christine Chanel is planned. More information will follow as the event nears.

* * *

HLibrary

"BOOK BUZZ" GROUP

Submitted by Cindy Kennedy

Tuesday, October 29, from 3 to 4:30 pm in Lake Lodge

The HLibrary Committee invites book-lovers to join in its first roundtable "Book Buzz" discussion. Come and share with the group which books you would recommend. Historical fiction? Non-fiction? Thriller? We would like to hear what you currently are reading. Each participant will have the opportunity to share his or her suggestions.

Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact Sheelagh Kaplan at 914-406-0679 or Cindy Kennedy at 914-299-1286.

* * *

FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

By Deb Ferrara

RED, WHITE, AND BLUE BINGO

Friday, November 8, at 7 pm in the Heritage Room

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Don't miss out on another fun night honoring our veterans. This is a **Members Only, limited capacity** event. Admission is \$10. Price

includes 3 Bingo cards/10 games. More will be available for purchase, as will daubers. 50/50 too! Refreshments will be served. Feel free to wear your patriotic colors.

Deposit your checks into the "Friends in the Hills" mail slot 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.

REMINDER

Saturday, December 14, will be the "Friends in the Hills" last event in 2024. You will not want to miss a night of Motown!

* * *

AAA DRIVER SAFETY COURSE

By Terry Clifford

Saturday, November 16, from 9 am to 4 pm, in the Heritage Room

- 1-hour break for lunch. Bring lunch, in case attendees decide to have a half-hour lunch break.
- Includes all materials and Certification of Course Completion.
- **Attendance is limited, so register today.**

Place your check for \$34 made payable to "AAA Northeast" – along with your name, address, email address, and phone number – in an envelope in the mail slot marked "AAA Course" outside the Activities Office in the Activities Center.

A flyer will be in the Activities Center and sent by email, if you subscribe to the Heritage Hills Website.

For more information, contact Terry Clifford at tcperson3@gmail.com.

* * *



COMMUNITY THEATRE

By Muriel Millstein Weiss

MURDER IS A GAME

Friday and Saturday, November 22 and 23 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 24 at 2 pm in the Heritage Room

Our thanks to everyone who auditioned for our November production of *Murder Is A Game* by Fred Carmichael – a comedy and mystery with many twists and turns. Directed by Dick Smith, rehearsals are in full swing as we prepare to wow you with our performances.

Tickets are \$15 per person for Theatre Club members, \$20 per person for non-members. Checks may be placed in the Club's mail slot in the Activities Center or mailed to Heritage Hills Community Theatre, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589. Include the performance date, the number of tickets, and your phone number/email address. In lieu of tickets, your name will be added to the reservation list.

Flyers are in the Activities Center and at Lake Lodge. If you have any questions, call Helen at 917-554-4417 or Muriel at 914-277-8825.

WHEN WALKING ON OUR ROADS, ALWAYS WALK FACING TRAFFIC, SINGLE FILE, HUG THE CURB, AND WEAR BRIGHT CLOTHING



SOCIETY BOARD NEWS

WELCOME NEW OWNERS

By Anna Milani

Society Office Administrator

During the month of August, ownership changed for 13 units. If you're a newcomer, you should have received a *New Resident* folder when obtaining your photo ID in the Activities Office. The folders are also available in the Society Office, open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.

SUMMARY OF PORTIONS OF THE SEPTEMBER 18 SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING

Compiled by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

This is a summary of some portions of the meeting. Videos of these monthly meetings have been posted on the Society Board website, hhsociety.org. The minutes of the monthly meeting will be published after they are approved at the next monthly meeting on October 23.

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

Also attending: John Milligan, Heritage Management Services, and Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Security

FINANCE & BUDGET, COMMITTEE - GENE ARCHER, CHAIR

Treasurer's Report

August Financials:

Income \$ 522,400.99

Expenses (777,739.28)

Deficit \$(255,338.29)

Major expenses included Road Paving - \$302,220, Storm Water Management Repairs - \$48,650, and Meadowlark Park trail enhancements - \$18,186.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE - ANN HARPER, CHAIR

- **New Screen and Projector:** Thanks to Andrew Kaplan and Mateo of Mateo Multimedia Productions for helping acquire and install these.

- Two New Activities:

- "Thriving in Your Prime - A Workshop Series" at which you'll learn strategies to navigate challenges in your life. Meets monthly.

- "Do You Know Your Options? Come Talk Senior Care" with Stephanie Roberti. Meets monthly.

FITNESS CENTER COMMITTEE - JOE KELLY, CHAIR

- August Usage:

- Exercise Room: 3,500 swipes (560 users)

- Gymnasium: 362 swipes (128 users)

- **Free Consultations:** Certified Personal Trainers Mary and Jonathan did 26 of these - a record amount.

- **New Equipment:** There are 3 new weight benches, 1 new dumb bell rack, and 1 trap bar.

MEADOWLARK PARK COMMITTEE - PATRICIA PLOSS, CHAIR

- **Updated Map:** See page 13.

- **Food Trucks:** The 16 weeks of Food Truck Thursdays was a tremendous success.

- **Park Place Kitchen:** The old one is being removed and it may be replaced with a mini kitchen.

- **Gift Donation:** Thank you, Shirley Kesselman, for your \$500 contribution, which will be used to purchase two new benches.

- **New Trail Request:** We'd like to add a more gradual trail to the high point.

- **Utility Terrain Vehicle:** We're looking into the acquisition of one for use by Security and Maintenance to get into certain areas of the park that are not otherwise accessible.

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE - PATRICIA PLOSS, CHAIR

- **Meadowlark Park Mowing:** We've cut back to allow nature to take its course in certain areas, so we're going to try that.

- **Lake Lodge:** We'll be planting periwinkle ground cover in the steep area between the back parking lot.

- **Main Entrance:** We'll neaten up the area between Prime Pub and Lake Lodge.

DIGITAL RECORDS RETENTION - JAY WRIGHT, CHAIR

The first half of the boxes have been scanned and the second half will be done shortly. Hopefully the project will be complete by the end of October.

POOL COMMITTEE - ALAN TEPPER, CHAIR

- **Post-Season:** We're hopeful we can keep both Pools 1 and 4 open past Labor Day next year.

- Statistics

August 1 thru Labor Day:

Pool 1: 1,536 residents and 194 guests - 53 per day average

Pool 2: 700 residents and 56 guests - 23 per day average

Pool 3: 1,380 residents and 319 guests - 52 per day average

Pool 4: 1,476 residents and 90 guests - 48 per day average

Pool 5: 841 residents and 68 guests - 27 per day average

Combined average of 203 per day

After Labor Day at Pool 4 (no guests, just residents)

53 per day (highest day: 85, lowest day: 8)

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - JACK MATTES, CHAIR

- **Toys for Tots** [See page 3]

- **Voting** [See page 10]

TOWN UPDATE - BRUCE PRINCE, CHAIR

- **Former Chase Bank next to the Elephant Hotel:** Will be turned into a yoga studio.

- **Billiard Parlor / Restaurant / Bar:** Will be added to the Baldwin Place shopping center.

SECURITY - ROB CASASANTA - PROSEGUR

- **Speeding Vehicles:** Due to complaints, we've asked Somers Police Department and the State Police for assistance. They have been here on the property writing summonses for speeding and going through STOP signs.

- **Resident Profile:** Residents should consider stopping by the office to file or update their profile and provide a key, if one isn't already on file.

OPERATIONS REPORT – JOHN MILLIGAN, PROPERTY MANAGER

- **Road Lines:** Are being painted.
- **Meadowlark Park:** We'll be working on the trail markers and have rebuilt the guard rail on the steepest trail going to the overlook.
- **East Hill Drive Paving:** Will commence shortly.
- **Alternate Energy:** Most possibilities are not worthwhile (break-even being 8 or 9 years). But at Lake Lodge we're looking into replacing the oil heater with heat pumps, blowing in insulation, replacing some windows, and shades instead of vertical blinds.
- **Permanent Speed Monitor on Westridge Drive.** A new permanent one has been installed directly above a sign indicating the speed limit.
- **Lake Lodge** – Three of the large activity photos in Room 3 are being replaced with color ones of pickleball, bocce, and the Fitness Center. The other four will be replaced in the future.

* * *

POST-MEETING DISCUSSIONS

- A few residents expressed their displeasure at only one pool being open after Labor Day. [See POOL COMMITTEE report, above.]
- A resident expressed concern that the policy requiring C Road unit residents travel to the closest A or B Road intersection to access the Shuttle buses is a hardship on handicapped C Road unit residents (due to distance and hills), and unfair, since those hardships are not experienced by A and B road handicapped residents (who are picked up at their doors). She reminded the Board that for over a quarter of a century all A, B, and C Road residents were picked up/dropped off at their front door, and requested that that practice be restored, The Board refused her request.
- A resident, a member of the Transportation Committee since 2017, supported the former resident's concern about Shuttle bus access. He suggested that shuttle bus access be given on the 36 C Roads with "turn-arounds" (as opposed to dead-end ones), which render it possible for the buses to be in forward the entire time they're on those C Roads (not having to do three-point turns).
- A resident expressed his concern that whereas he has had two garden squares in the Community Garden for quite some time, he was advised he can now only have one. It was explained that since there's a waiting list, there should be one square per person unless there are extra ones.
- A resident expressed disappointment that his request that a POW/MIA flag be flown beneath the American flag was denied. He was advised that doing so would set a precedent.

* * *

SECURITY

By Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Security

AUGUST SECURITY CALL REPORT

During the month of August, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 293 calls including the following matters:

Medical.....	74
Security	55
Open Garage Doors	51
Police	11 (6 Somers, 5 State)
Fire Calls	3 (1 automatic fire alarms, 1 smoke/CO2 alarms, 1 other)
Burglar Alarms.....	1
Service	76 (32 lift assists, 8 persons locked out, 10 welfare checks, 5 battery change, and 21 other)
Maintenance.....	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	4 (no injuries)
Parking Violations.....	11 (in handicapped spaces, fire lanes, A roads, or B roads)

If you have any Security questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to me directly either by phone at 914-276-2592 or by email at *Robert.Casasanta@prosegur.com*.

* * *

COUNCIL OF CONDOS

By Terry Clifford

The following Condos attended Council of Condos August Meeting: 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30.

Comcast Firewall Repair: Condo 16 shared their process for getting Comcast to pay for the damage to firewalls. The procedures will be sent to all Condo Presidents.

Condo Rules & Regulation Violations for Use of Common Property: Common Property is defined as all areas around the outside of your unit except your patio or deck, which is identified as limited common property. Condos in Heritage Hills have various rules which deal with storage in and around your unit. These rules must be followed or a letter from the Condo will be sent to the unit owner giving notice that if the items in question are not managed according to the regulations a fine will be added to their account.

Parking in Driveways: This is an issue of concern for most Condos. This practice may cause damage to the driveway at a great cost to the Condo and hamper the ability of emergency vehicles to get close to your unit if you should need aid.

Air Conditioning: Most Condos require a Variance to replace current central air conditioning units. Window or in-wall air conditioners are not allowed. Portable air conditioners may be allowed. Many Condos have approved variances for "Heat Pump Systems" which provide both air conditioning and electric heat.

Gun Club: Condo 22 is continuing their work in opposition to the expansion of the Gun Club. There may be an update for the September Council Meeting.

Lithium-Ion Battery Farm: The Town of Carmel placed a moratorium period and the potential for an extension of another six months. However, there may be an effort for Carmel to approve its installation going forward.

The next meeting of the Council will be October 23 at 7 pm at the Activities Center, Room 3. We're looking forward to seeing a representative from each of our thirty Condominiums at this meeting.

NEWSLETTER NOT IN YOUR MAILBOX?

By Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

If you're not receiving the Newsletter in your mailbox, here's what you should do:

Check to see if your neighbors are receiving theirs.

- If so, that means someone removed yours from your mailbox.
- If not, call the Somers Post Office at 914-276-0631, ask to speak with the Postmistress, Ms. Ashwin, and explain the situation to her. Do not discuss this with a clerk; only speak to Ms. Ashwin.

Meanwhile, there are extra copies of each issue in the Activities Center reception area and in both the Society and Activities Offices.

Also, they're transmitted each month by Society Board email blast, **if you're registered**. To register, call 914-276-2908.

* * *

GENERAL ELECTION VOTING GUIDELINES

By Terry Clifford

REGISTERING TO VOTE

- **Deadline:** Registration form must be **received by October 26**.
- **How to get the Registration form:** Go to citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com/images/stories/pdfs/23voterregform.pdf

EARLY MAIL BALLOTS

- **Deadlines**
 - Application Forms must be **received by October 26**.
 - Ballot Filing:
 - By mail: - **Must be postmarked no later than November 5**.
 - In Person: **Between October 26 and November 3**, bring it to an early voting poll site in Westchester County (Somers Town House/Elephant Hotel).
- **Who May Apply:** Any registered voter. Each person must apply for themselves.
- **How to get the Application form:** Go to ballotapplication.elections.ny.gov/home/earlymail.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

- **Deadlines:**
 - Application form must be **received by October 26**.
 - Ballot Filing:
 - By mail: - **Must be postmarked no later than November 5**.
 - In Person: **Between October 26 and November 3**, bring it to an early voting poll site in Westchester County (Somers Town House/Elephant Hotel).
- **New Absentee Ballot Procedure:** If you have been issued an Absentee Ballot, you **will not be permitted to cast a ballot on a voting machine**.
- **Qualifications:**
 - Absent from your county on Election Day and/or
 - Unable to appear at the polls due to temporary or permanent illness or disability and/or
 - Unable to appear because you are the primary caregiver of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled.
- **How to get the Application form:** Go to ballotapplication.elections.ny.gov/home/absentee or send an email request to BOE-WestAbsentee@westchestercountyny.gov.

EARLY VOTING

All registered Heritage Hills voters can vote early at any poll site in Westchester County including Somers Town House/Elephant Hotel at 335 Route 202 in Somers). The days and hours are:

- Saturday, October 26, from 10 am to 6 pm
- Sunday, October 27, from 10 am to 6 pm
- Monday, October 28, from 8 am to 4 pm until 4 pm
- Tuesday, October 29, from noon to 8 pm
- Wednesday, October 30, from 8 am to 4 pm
- Thursday, October 31, from noon to 8 pm
- Friday, November 1, from 8 am to 4 pm
- Saturday, November 2, from 10 am to 6 pm

* * *

SOMERS NATIONAL GOLF COURSE GOOD NEIGHBOR EFFORTS

By Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

Representatives of one of our Condos met with the Somers National Golf Course's manager to discuss the fact that numerous stray golf balls being found on the Condo's property. The risk of someone being struck by a golf ball while on their deck or patio was very real.

As a result, the tee box was relocated to direct shots away from Condo buildings, and a sign was being erected directing golfers to not aim in the direction of Condo buildings. Also, to improve sightlines to the green, bushes along a pond were being removed and trees trimmed. Finally, new vegetation will be planted, and security cameras will be installed to monitor fairway activity. The golf course team is also considering improvements to clear the large pond of water lilies to enhance its appearance.

THE NEWSLETTER WELCOMES ARTICLES AND PHOTOS FROM HERITAGE HILLS RESIDENTS

OUR DEADLINE IS THE 6TH OF THE MONTH.

Authors' names will be indicated. We cannot guarantee that every item will be used, and all submissions are subject to being edited for format, length, acceptability of language, and suitability of content. Submissions should be in email attachment format (preferably Word) or by hand or mail to the Heritage Hills Activities Office or Society Office at 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, NY 10589.



EMAIL ADDRESS: HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com.

When Submitting Photos:

If using your phone instead of a camera, please use the **highest resolution**. Unless it's a scenic vista, concentrate on faces. Most photographs are taken from too far away, and if the image is cropped, the faces will be blurred. Get closer.

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

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

HLibrary

OUR GROWING MYSTERY COLLECTION

This month the Library is adding a few more mysteries than usual. The coming fall weather is perfect for reading mystery books. Two notable books are *The Dark Wives*, by Ann Cleeves, and *Death at the Sign of the Rook*, by Kate Atkinson. Both authors are relatively new to our collection but are highly regarded.

Ann Cleeves is the author of the Shetland and Vera book series, both of which have been made into popular TV series. This new book is part of the Vera series.

Kate Atkinson is a crossover author writing both literary fiction and mysteries with her detective Jackson Brody. *Death at the Sign of the Rook* is the sixth Jackson Brody mystery, and it has all the elements of an Agatha Christie mystery set in a stately home.

"BOOK BUZZ" GROUP

The HLibrary Committee is sponsoring our first roundtable "Book Buzz" group discussion on Tuesday, October 29, from 3 to 4:30 pm in Lake Lodge. For more information, see page 7.

BOOK REVIEW

For a review of *The God of the Woods*, by Liz Moore, see page 38. The mystery novel was added to our collection this summer.



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

- Haig, Matt. *The Life Impossible*
- Kushner, Rachel *Creation Lake*
- Moriarty, Liane. *Here One Moment*
- Powers, Richard *Playground*
- Rooney, Sally *Intermezzo*
- Sparks, Nicholas. *Counting Miracles*
- Strout, Elizabeth *Tell Me Everything*

Mystery

- Archer, Jeffrey. *An Eye for an Eye*
- Atkinson, Kate *Death at the Sign of the Rook*
- Cleeves, Ann. *The Dark Wives*
- Child, Lee. *Safe Enough*
- Dave, Laura *The Night We Lost Him*
- Deaver, Jeffrey *Fatal Intrusion*
- Koontz, Dean *The Forest of Lost Souls*
- Newman, J. T. *Worst Case Scenario*
- Osman, Richard *We Solve Murders*
- Robb, J. D. *Passions in Death*

Non-Fiction

- Das, Anupreeta *Billionaire, Nerd, Savior, King: Bill Gates and His Quest to Shape Our World*
- Harris, Kamala *The Truths We Hold*

FAMILY FOCUS



GIULIANA DEMAIO'S first day of Kindergarten
By Lydia Demaio

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2024
Some of our young residents happily returned to school in September.
Photos compiled by Keri Reitman Schnapper



LUCAS ANAYA'S first day of 3rd Grade
By Vanessa Anaya



LEO WEINSTEIN'S first day of Kindergarten
By Rebecca Weinstein



ALEX SCHNAPPER'S first day of 7th Grade
By Brian Schnapper



GABRIELLA ANAYA'S first day of Kindergarten
By Vanessa Anaya

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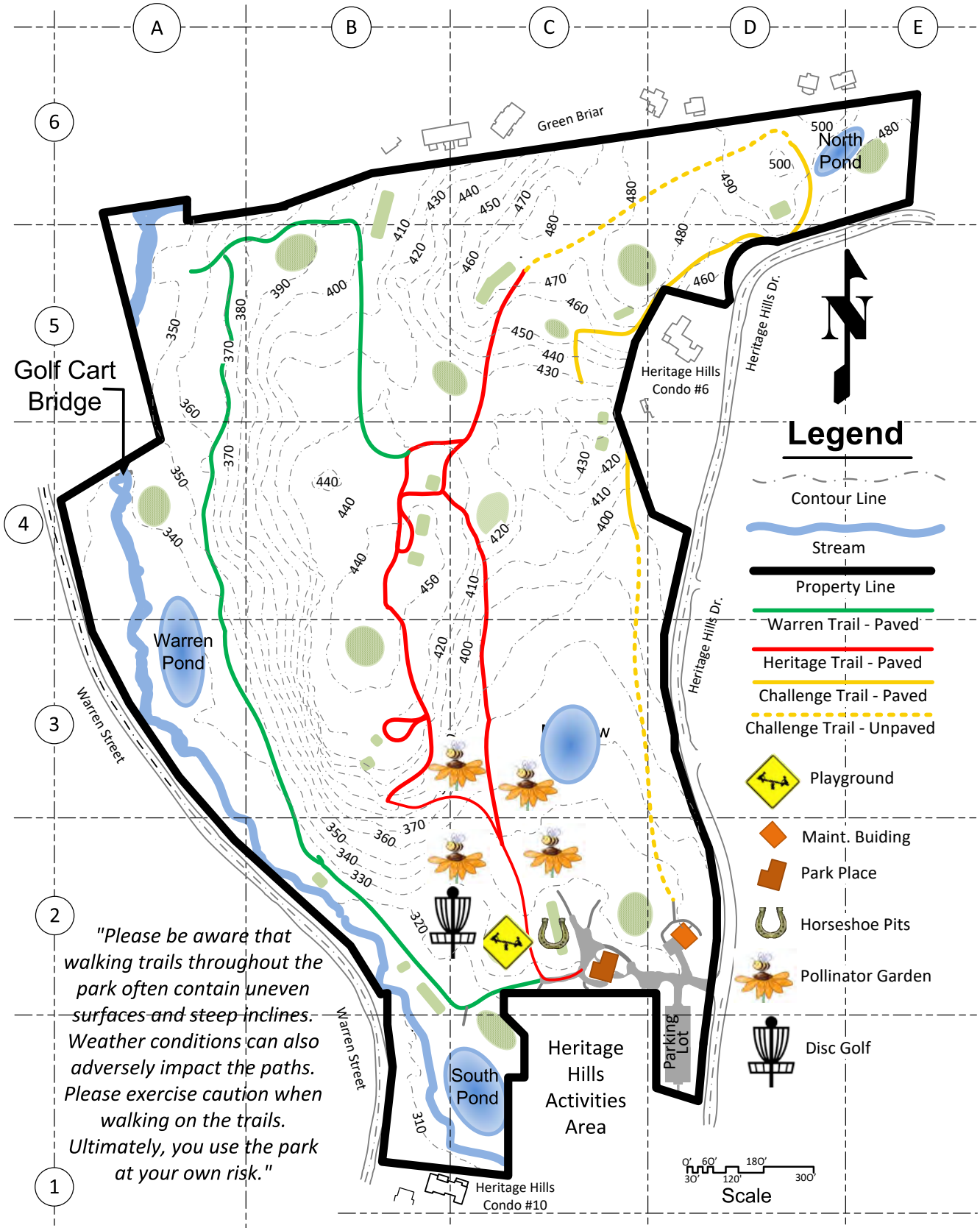
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Meadowlark Park – Trail Map

This map is provided for informational purposes only. Not all objects are presented to scale.



2 "Please be aware that walking trails throughout the park often contain uneven surfaces and steep inclines. Weather conditions can also adversely impact the paths. Please exercise caution when walking on the trails. Ultimately, you use the park at your own risk."

1

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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.

LEARN TO BEAD WITH ALLISON: Join us on Mondays at 11 am in Room B for our beading class. Each class is \$25 including materials fee. You go home with a piece of jewelry that you made for yourself or for a special someone. Come and join the fun. To enroll or for more information, contact Allison Rubin at 914- 629-3655 or ahrubin521@yahoo.com.

CRAFT CLUB: Calling all crafters! Join us to explore new media, share traditional crafts, and meet other crafters. 2nd Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3 pm and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6 to 8 pm. Email if you're interested in joining craftclubhh@gmail.com.

NEEDLECRAFT GROUP: Charitable needlecraft group meets Wednesdays at 12:30 pm in the Game Room. All skill levels are welcome. \$20 annual dues. 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.

PHOTO CLUB: Meets the second Friday of each month at 2 pm in Room 2 of the Activities Center. All are welcome to join regardless of experience in photography. For more information, contact Myra Hopper at 520-390-5523 or myrahopper@gmail.com.

SKETCH WORKSHOP: Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am in Activities Center's Studio A. Portraits, figures, still lifes. Bring your choice of paper, pen, pencil, watercolor, pastel, etc. Models are welcome to pose for 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 evemusart@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: Membership, open to all residents, is \$12 per person for the year. Fill out a Membership Form available outside the Activities Office and include it in an envelope with your payment. Watch for flyers and TV notices announcing upcoming events.

CLUB SHALOM: You don't have to be Jewish to love Club Shalom, a Club dedicated to providing quality entertaining and educational Jewish cultural programs for Heritage Hills residents. Watch for information about upcoming events. All residents are welcome.

CONCERT SOCIETY: We present four classical concerts, featuring the best and brightest of classical music's Rising Stars, on Sundays at 3 pm in May, June, September, and October in the Activities Center's Heritage Room. Annual subscriptions are \$90 per person or pay \$26 per person per concert at the door. Subscription Forms are available at the Activities Center. If you have any questions, call Raina Lefkowitz at 914-262-4407.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: 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 Angela Viscogliosi at 914-393-8736.

EXERCISE CLASSES

CHAIR ZUMBA/TONING WITH THERESA: Mondays at 9:45 am by Zoom only. Zumba for anyone who prefers a seated workout. Contact Theresa for more information at zumbawithme@aol.com.

GENTLE YOGA WITH LISA: Mondays at 11:30 am and Fridays at 10 am in Lake Lodge's 2nd floor. \$12 for a 75-minute class. Lisaathomas@optonline.net or 914-497-0243.

TAI CHI & CHI GONG WITH MASTER ELLEN: Mondays 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 heritagehillstaichi2@gmail.com.

CHAIR YOGA WITH SATISH: Practice Tuesdays 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. Chair Yoga aimed at toning the entire body and increasing flexibility. Breathing and meditation for relaxation and mind-body connection. Live music. \$10 per class. Call or email to register at 914-646-0887 or Satishgambhir@gmail.com.

CARDIO/STRENGTH/STRETCH CLASS WITH LORI: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 am in the Gym. 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. Fee: \$10 per class. Try the first class for free! Class is also available on Zoom. Email Lori at eefyjig@gmail.com.

LINDA'S LAKE LODGE CLASSES: Body Conditioning: 8:30 am Tuesdays and Thursdays. Rock & Roll Workout: 9:30 am Tuesdays. Yoga Pilates: 9:30 am Thursdays. Sports Conditioning: 9 am Sundays. All classes are \$10 per class. Register at the start of the month. Contact Linda Zeiss instructor at Labzeiss@gmail.com or 718-541-0861.

MOVE AND GROOVE WITH THERESA: Wednesdays at 11 am 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.

GETTING BACK ON TRACK (15-15-15) WITH THERESA: Fridays at 10:50 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. On Hiatus Until Fall.

ZUMBA GOLD WITH THERESA: Fridays at 10 am in the Fitness Center and on Zoom, and Saturdays at 10 am on Zoom only. Fun, easy to follow, low impact dance fitness class. Contact Theresa for more information at zumbawithme@aol.com.

VINYASA YOGA WITH JOE: Saturdays at 9 am in Lake Lodge's Upper Level. \$12 per class. To register, email Joe Ferrari at josephferrari@me.com.

FAMILY NETWORK GROUP: Arranges organized family-oriented gatherings, days and evenings, several times a year. Go to Facebook.com to join the group "Heritage Hills Family Network" or email keri.reitman@gmail.com.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE GROUPS

FRENCH CONVERSATION: Meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at Lake Lodge in Room 1 from 11 am to noon. 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 Carole Ellis 914-260-9182 or email her at carellis14@yahoo.com.

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP: Meets the 1st Thursday of the month in Lake Lodge's Room 1 at 11 am. Group is open to intermediate through fluent Spanish speakers. ¡Vengan!

FUN & GAMES

CONTEMPORARY FICTION BOOK CLUB: Openings are available for residents interested in joining. We meet the first Tuesday of each month from 2 to 3 pm. Contact Myra Hopper at 520 390-5523 or myrahopper@gmail.com.

BRIDGE—DUPLICATE: Mondays and Thursdays at 12:30 pm in the Activities Center. For information, call Marie at 914-277-4266.

BRIDGE – SOCIAL: Wednesdays at 10 am at Lake Lodge.

CANASTA CLUB: Saturdays from 12:30 to 4 pm. Contact Doris Simon at 914-276-0111 or Doris1121@me.com or Nancy Heilman at 914-224-7180 or Nancy.C.Heilman@gmail.com.

CHESS CLUB: Wednesdays from 1 to 3:30 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 3. We are a group of chess enthusiasts who enjoy coming together to play some friendly games of chess! Beginners are welcome! 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.

FRIENDS IN THE HILLS CLUB: Open to all adult Heritage Hills residents. Each meeting is a night of fun and socializing with your neighbors. See the COMING EVENTS section of this *Newsletter* for event details. Email us at Friendsinthehills@aol.com with any questions or contact Debbie Ferrara at 914-924-3003 or Mary Ann Walrath at 914-318-1227.

MAH JONGG: Mondays at noon in Lake Lodge (contact Sue Furino 914-617-9110); Wednesdays at noon in the Activities Center (contact Carol Tocci 914-471-5689); Fridays at 1 pm in Lake Lodge and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 am to 1 pm (contact Cheryl Milde at 914-342-3068).

SCRABBLERS: Thursdays starting promptly at 1 pm in Room 2 in the Activities Center. Casual Scrabble game play. Play 1 or more games. All levels of play, including newbies, are welcome. For more information, just walk in or contact Susan at 914-617-9228 or civwhitestar@comcast.net.

GARDEN CLUB: For information, including questions on membership and use of the Community Garden, please send an email to hhgardenclubsecrtry@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 on the second Friday of the month from 9 to 11 am in the Activities Center's Game Room. Your temperature may be taken. 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, Ph.D. To register, call 914-617-9328 or email ludwiglr@aol.com.

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 Board website. See the COMING EVENTS section of this *Newsletter* for this month's screening. 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 Saturdays 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 Mondays 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: Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 am in the Activities Center's Game Room, 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, contact Pat Caruso at 914-276-2224 or carusop515@comcast.net. Membership dues are \$12 per year.

SPORTS

BOCCE GROUP: Wednesdays and Saturdays (weather permitting) starting at 9:30 am. For more information contact Reno DiCristofaro at 914-500-5160 or Diane Purr at 914-617-9338.

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 COMMITTEE: 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!

PING PONG: Thursdays at 10 am in the Activities Center's Game Room. Open to all residents. Come hang out and play!

SHUFFLEBOARD GROUP: October through March on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm, and on Saturdays from 9:30 am to noon, in the Gym.

TENNIS COMMITTEE: 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.

TED TALKS: On the third Friday of the month, from 3 to 5 pm in the Heritage Room, hosts Ami Stokhamer and Karl Milde (residents) present two thought-provoking TED Talk videos, after which there is open discussion. Free event with light refreshments. For more information, see the COMING EVENTS section in this *Newsletter*, or call Ami at 914-486-9677 or Karl at 845-545-1959.

10-A-MEN CLUB: Come to the Activities Center's Heritage Room on Wednesdays at 9 am and have continental breakfast for \$2. The meeting starts at 10 am.

THRIVING IN YOUR PRIME: Join us every other week to discuss relevant topics and learn strategies that will help those over the age of 50 navigate the challenges they are confronted with. We discuss a new topic each time we meet, and you will learn strategies you can implement in your own life. Dates through year-end are October 3, 17, and 31; November 7 and 21; and December 5 and 19. Each get-together will take place at 1 pm in Room 3 of Lake Lodge, except the October 17 one, which will take place in the Game Room of the Activities Center. \$5 per session.

TRAVEL CLUB: Our mission is designed for those who enjoy traveling, whether the trips are to nearby or far away destinations. All details are handled by the Group. Buses leave from and return to Heritage Hills. Information on our trips is

ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

available on flyers in the Activities Center, on TV, and in this *Newsletter*.

WOMEN'S CLUB: The second Wednesday of the month, except for January, July, and August. See the COMING EVENTS section of this Newsletter for specific upcoming event details. We welcome new members! Membership dues for renewals and new members are just \$12 for the year. Flyers are available at the Activity Center for 2024 memberships. Insert your check in an envelope; include your name, unit number, and phone number; and put it in the Women's Club mail slot. For membership information, please call membership chairperson, Alfreda Savarese at 914-617-2007.

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



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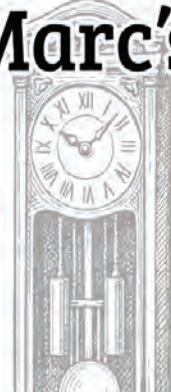
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Heritage Hills Society Board Standing Committees – September 2024

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

<p>Activities Ann Harper, Chair Denise Elliott <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> Andrew Kaplan, Activities Coordinator</p> <p>Audit Jack Mattes, Chair Peter Monaghan <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> HMS Staff Accountant</p> <p>Communication Website Alan Tepper, Board Rep. <i>Advisor to the Subcommittee</i> Andrew Kaplan</p> <p>Channel 21 <i>Advisors to the Subcommittee</i> Andrew Kaplan DuShawn Richardson Nick Madeo</p> <p>Community Affairs Jack Mattes, Chair Patricia Ploss Jay Wright <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p>Digital Records Retention Jay Wright, Chair Patricia Ploss Alan Tepper <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> Anna Milani, Society Office Manager</p> <p>Emergency Preparedness Jack Mattes, Chair Alan Tepper Jay Wright Terry Clifford <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Supervisor John Milligan, Property Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager</p> <p>Finance & Budget Gene Archer, Chair Gloria Anderson Denise Elliott Deica Ruiz Jay Wright <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager HMS Staff Accountant</p>	<p>Fitness Center Joe Kelly, Chair Maria Molinski <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager Mary Tedesco, Fitness Center Manager Jonathan Reichbach, Fitness Center</p> <p>Health & Safety Flo Brodley, Chair Deica Ruiz, Board Rep Alicia Brescia Elfriede Eidam, RN Rosemary Glassman, RN Leslie Guttman, RN Arlene Hoffman Bev Jacobson Jade Lew Mona Moriber, LCSW Eileen Plastino, RN Sally Slotoroff <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Supervisor</p> <p>Infrastructure Bruce Prince, Chair Joe Kelly Art Singer <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager</p> <p>Redecorating Gloria Anderson, Board Liaison Patricia Ploss Bruce Prince Susan Atwell</p> <p>Insurance Gene Archer, Chair <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p>Landscape Patricia Ploss, Chair Karl Milde Joanne Meder Mary Ann Mitchell <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager John Maxner, Maxner Eileen Schmidt, Maxner <i>Consultant</i> Melissa Brent, Westchester Properties</p> <p>Legal Gloria Anderson, Chair</p>	<p>Library Deica Ruiz, Chair Gloria Anderson Pat Conetta Linda Felix Sheelagh Kaplan Cindy Kennedy</p> <p>Meadowlark Park Patricia Ploss, Chair Bruce Prince Alan Tepper Marti Lowenfeld Mike McBride <i>Advisor to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p>Newsletter Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi, Chair/Editor in Chief Gloria Anderson, Board Rep. Karl Milde Patricia Adams Rosetta Benson Phyllis Bradbury Dassi Citron Terry Clifford Cindy Kennedy Elizabeth Royston Keri Reitman Schnapper Carol Vartuli</p> <p>Pool Alan Tepper, Chair Barbara Antoneccia Frank Gallo Warren Groner Laura Mellor Joan Sottile Hope Wittrick <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> John Milligan, Property Manager Marcus Lovell, Facilities Manager Julius Domingo, Ass’t. Facilities Manager Laura Cullen, HMS</p> <p>Security Ralph Fatigate, Chair <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Supervisor John Milligan, Property Manager</p> <p>Transportation Bruce Prince, Chair Ken Benjamin Dietmar Choka <i>Advisors to the Committee</i> Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Supervisor John Milligan, Property Manager Mike Triano, Maintenance Yard Manager</p>
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HERITAGE HILLS SOCIETY

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 2024

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GLORIA ANDERSON, 1st Vice President

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 Member: Finance & Budget Committee
 Library Committee
 Board Liaison: Infrastructure Committee
 - Redecorating
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 Member: Infrastructure Committee
 - Redecorating
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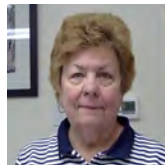
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 Community Affairs Committee
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Member: Landscape Committee
 Newsletter Committee



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 Member: Community Affairs Committee
 Digital Records Retention Committee
 Infrastructure Committee
 - Redecorating



ART SINGER

Member: Infrastructure Committee



ALAN TEPPER

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 Member: Digital Records Retention Committee
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TENNIS NEWS

By Dena Goldstein



August was a great month for the Heritage Hills Tennis Community. The Tennis Committee hosted both the Women's Social and the annual Men's Mixed Doubles Tournament.



Ten teams entered the Tournament. The winners of the Main Draw were David Chestnut and Jesse Howard. The winners of the Consolation round were John Lobello and Randy Bennett.

Friday night tennis is still going strong. As long as the weather is good, we will continue playing tennis. Come on down. If you have any questions, give me a call at 914-589-3560.

Hope to see you on the courts.

* * *



LEAGUE FINAL RESULTS

Text and photos by Diane Purr, Commissioner

A record number of people turned out for the league this year. New and seasoned players made up eleven teams and competed in fourteen games, with only one postponement due to weather.

The competition was fierce, and we had a playoff for second place between the "AWESOME" and "FLYERS" teams. This season we celebrated with not just one but two pizza parties at the courts with plenty of camaraderie between players.



First Place was won by the "JAGUARS," captained by Michael Boemio and Eric Szorzelli with team members Joe Delucia, Len Destefano, Tony Ferrara, Janet Gallo, Phil Glazer, Lisa Latasa, Vince Lorenzo, and Joan Pappalardo.



Second Place was won by "AWESOME," captained by Reno DiCristofaro and Ben Martinez with team members Jim Doherty, John Gallo, Ralph Gronback, Deena Kirschenbaum, Frank Kumpan, Glenn Oronzio, Joe Soldano, and John Zeiss. (Joe, Jim, Reno, and Ben are seen here.)

Honorable mention to the "FLYERS," captained by Warren Groner and Garielle Bekel.

Same time next year!

* * *

EAST HILL MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

Text and photo by Ken Freeman

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP



Club Championship winners, left to right, A Low Net: Steve Cerbone, A Low Gross and overall Club Champion: Charlie Barrett, B Low Gross: Rob Leone, and B Low Net: Jack O'Hanlon.

The last of the club's three major annual tournaments – the Individual Club Championship – took place on August 22 and 29, with titles for both "A" (our top golfers) and "B" (the rest of us) flights.

First round results were close for both As and Bs. Among the As, the gross score leader was Yogi Santa-Donato, with Frank Servidio and Bob Sotoroff one stroke behind, and Bob Briganti two strokes behind Yogi. The handicap-adjusted net score leader was Steve Cerbone, followed by Howard Weiner. Among the Bs, Rob Leone was the gross score leader, with Ken Freeman one stroke behind and Nick Stanton off by two strokes. The net score leader was Bill Ablondi, with Jack O'Hanlon one stroke behind.

But in the second round, Charlie Barrett surged ahead to win the A flight gross honors, with Frank Servidio just two strokes behind. Steve Cerbone maintained his A flight net score leadership, with Howard Weiner remaining in second place. Among the B group, Rob Leone held on to win the gross score title, with Jack O'Hanlon recording the low net score.

OTHER RESULTS (standard Stroke Play unless indicated otherwise)

August 6

B Flight: Low Gross – Bob Kenney

Combined A's and B's: Low Net – John Mahoney, 2nd Sandy Lieberman, 3rd Davis Stowell, 4th Frank Servidio, 5th Ed Yee.

August 8

A Flight: Low Gross – Yogi Santa-Donato; Low Net – Howard Weiner.

B Flight: Low Gross – John Mahoney; Low Net – Nick Stanton, 2nd Rich O'Brien, 3rd Charlie Kravetz.

August 13

A Flight: Low Gross – Mike Flaherty; Low Net – Ed Yee, 2nd Charlie Barrett.

B Flight: Low Gross – Sandy Lieberman; Low Net – Ray Ormerod, 2nd John Mahoney, 3rd Davis Stowell.

August 15: 2-Person Teams, Stroke Play Net Better Ball per Hole

1st Place Tie – Ed Yee/Charlie Kravetz and Frank Servidio/Jack O'Hanlon
2nd Place – Charlie Barrett/Sandy Lieberman.

August 20

A Flight: Low Gross – Bob Briganti; Low Net – Howard Weiner, 2nd Frank Servidio.

B Flight: Low Gross – Bill Ablondi; Low Net – Ed Sottile, 2nd Rob Leone, 3rd Frank Gallo, 4th Al Zaffiro.

August 27

A Flight: Low Gross – Yogi Santa-Donato; Low Net – Ed Yee, 2nd Charlie Barrett.

B Flight: Low Gross – Charlie Kravetz; Low Net – Frank Gallo, 2nd Nick Stanton, 3rd Rich O'Brien, 4th John Mahoney.

September 3

A Flight: Low Gross – Joel Greenspan; Low Net – Bob Briganti, 2nd Charlie Barrett.

B Flight: Low Gross – Nick Stanton; Low Net – Ed Sottile, 2nd Rob Leone.

September 5: 2-Person Teams, Alternate Shot Stroke Play, Low Net

1st Charlie Kravetz/Jack O'Hanlon, 2nd Frank Servidio/Tom Witmer, 3rd Joel Greenspan/Ed Sottile, 4th Howard Weiner/Rob Leone.



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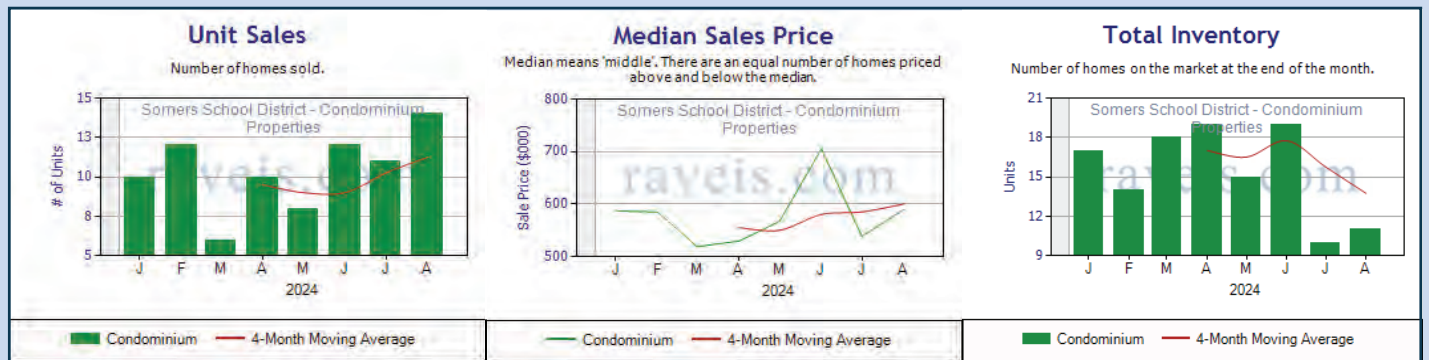


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**MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR
KARL MILDE**

*Text by Rosetta Benson,
photo by Cheryl Milde*

Karl Milde retired in 2017 after 49 years as a practicing attorney, specializing in intellectual property law. In 2018, he and his wife Cheryl moved from Mahopac, where they had lived for almost 40 years, to Heritage Hills. Like many residents here, Karl was eager to give up the maintenance tasks of taking care of a house.

Karl holds two B.S. degrees from MIT (Physics and Electrical Engineering). He is also a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and was a member of the New York Bar (registered to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office). Karl began his career with the firm of Brumbaugh, Graves, Donohue & Raymond (now Baker & Botts) in New York City. Fluent in German, Karl subsequently served as Director of Patents for the United States subsidiary of Siemens AG. Eventually leaving Siemens, Karl founded the boutique firm of Milde & Hoffberg, LLP, in White Plains with his partner, Steven Hoffberg. In 2009, Milde merged his law practice into the firm of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC. This move allowed Karl (a licensed pilot) to join Dr. Jeffrey A. Matos in founding M & M Technologies, a "think tank" for concepts in aviation safety.

Karl is the epitome of a Renaissance man. He has an insatiable curiosity and empathy for the world around him. Consider how deep and far-ranging his interests are! He goes out of his way to attend both yoga and tai chi classes weekly; he combines the benefit of walking 10,000 steps a day with his desire to learn by listening – at the same time – to a wide range of lectures on his air pods. I made note of a few from his list of titles: *Cooking and Nutrition*, *The Big Bang*, *Off the Beaten Path (travel)*, *Confucius*, *Buddhism*, and *The Art of Investing (hedge funds)*.

He feels just as comfortable writing children's books, e.g. *Jason and the Detectives*, as sharing his personal statement of faith: *The Little Book About God*.

For years, Karl has been a member of the Rotary Club of White Plains, and former District Governor for Rotary District 7230 (New York City's five boroughs and Westchester County).

Moreover, Karl is literally almost *everywhere* in Heritage Hills: past President of the Garden Club, Co-Host of TED Talks, coordinator of this year's Welcome to Heritage Event/EXPO, member of the Condo 26 Board as well as the Society Board, and writer for this *Newsletter*. And last, but not least, it was Karl's idea and his persistence that made the recent outdoor concert in Meadowlark Park happen and be the success it was!

PICKLEBALL LUAU SOCIAL

By Fran Boemio



Over one hundred pickleball loving partygoers, dressed in their best Hawaiian style, attended a Luau on August 17 in the Heritage Room.

Although there wasn't a pig on a firepit or fire knife dancing, we had plenty to eat and too many desserts! Everyone danced the night away to our wonderful DJ Johnny Angel, who seamlessly mixed in Hawaiian music with the tunes we love.

When people join the pickleball community it's first for the love of the game, and the social aspect is the icing on the cake. We have evolved into a community where there's a culture of respect, support, similar values, inclusiveness, loyalty, and the eagerness to be together.



HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

SAFETY IN THE HOME - PART 2

By Arlene Hoffman

Now that the weather is starting to cool, here's our next reminder on the safety of home environments.

Kitchen Safety Checklist

- Keep the entire kitchen clean and clutter free.
- Have bright, appropriate lighting.
- Clean ventilation system.
- Have anti-slip floors; where needed, always use non-slip mats.
- Foods:
 - Separate raw and cooked foods.
 - Cook all foods thoroughly.
 - Keep all foods at safe temperatures.

Throughout the home:

- Make sure that medications are current and out of reach of children/pets.
- Keep loose clothing, towels, and paper products away from open flames.
- Clean up spills immediately, to avoid slips and falls.
- Keep all sharps in appropriate storage.
- Always have a fire extinguisher in reach.
- Always have an emergency plan for accidental poisoning. The Poison Control Center – 800-222-1222 – is available 24/7.

We would like everyone to enjoy the beautiful autumn weather while ensuring our safety in and around our homes.

Look for our upcoming safety checklists in future issues of this *Newsletter*.



RECEIVING MORE THAN I SEEK IN MEADOWLARK PARK

Text and photos by Dassi Citron

In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.

The above John Muir quote captures the essence of the Meadowlark Park trails that I visit regularly. Anticipating uneven gravelly portions ahead, I don sneakers with good tread, leash up my dog and begin. The park contains a labyrinth of trails, some already walked, some waiting to be explored (see updated park map on page 13).

But I have my favorite. The Warren Trail (in blue on the map), is so named as it meanders parallel to Warren Street. It takes twenty minutes if I walk briskly.



My walk begins going clockwise on the trail, The spray from the South Pond's fountain is visible on my left. Here the path is level gravel. On a good day I might see a heron, fox, certainly many geese, and the occasional deer.

As I meander, Warren Pond appears on the left. It is a magnet for wildlife: herons, geese, ducks, turtles, frogs. In warm months, a thick coat of algae covers it. Waterfowl try to float on it; quite counterintuitive.

In the evening, deer often gather there. Once, a coyote hidden on the adjacent hill, stared at my pup and me. We felt like interlopers, so we quickly turned around - in an abundance of caution!



A newly paved walkway goes over a large grassy area. I envision a meadow of Joe Pye Weed and Milkweed in this large expansive field.

If you follow along, the trail eventually reaches a fork. You can either go right (or soft right) to get back to the parking lot or, if you take the second right, you will find the following: a bench and a path featuring an overlook that spans Meadow Pond,

the Activities Center, the playground, the pollinator gardens, and the cherry tree path. If you end up taking different turns you will be rewarded with a different view, with a windy steep path that ends near the pollinator garden area.

Pokeweed, Milkweed and Nettle line the steep downhill path, leading to the vibrant pollinator garden area. A bench was recently added - a prime spot for viewing birds, butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. The pond to your left is full of frogs. A place for kids of all ages to explore.

Meadowlark Park, named for one of our resident a birds, is everchanging - an adventure in all seasons.



* * *



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Verse and photo by Sue Shea

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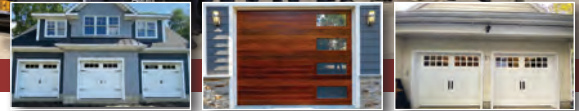
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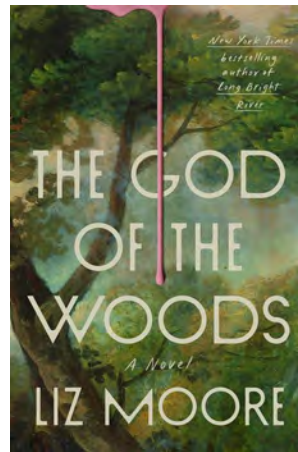
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COLUMNS

THE BOOK SHELF

By Cindy Kennedy



Every now and then, a novel comes along that grabs a reader on its first page and never lets go. *The God of the Woods*, Liz Moore's new page-turner, fits that description. Equal parts family drama and thriller, *The God of the Woods* perfectly captured this reviewer's attention.

The God of the Woods is set at Camp Emerson in upstate New York in 1975. Nestled between a dense forest and a tranquil lake, the camp is owned by the wealthy Van Laar family, who have a palatial summer home on its expansive property. Generations of local villagers have worked at the camp or on the Van Laar Preserve.

The story begins on an early August morning. Camp counselor Louise makes an unsettling discovery: One of the campers is missing from her bunk bed. The girl in question is thirteen-year-old Barbara, the unruly daughter of Peter and Alice Van Laar. Louise reports Barbara's absence to Camp Director Tessie Jo Hewitt, known to all as T. J.

T. J., who has lived on the Van Laar Preserve since childhood when her father was the property's groundskeeper, developed an abiding respect for the forest. During camp orientation, she instructs campers how to navigate using a compass or the sun, stressing they should remain calm if lost in the woods. T. J. explains that the word *panic* comes from Pan, the Greek god of the woods, who liked to stir up chaos. "To panic," she tells them, "was to make an enemy of the woods. To stay calm was to be its friend."

When T. J. informs Alice and Peter that Barbara is missing, it is not the first time they have been confronted with the disappearance of a child. Fourteen years prior – before Barbara was born – their eight-year-old son, nicknamed "Bear," inexplicably vanished from the Van Laar Preserve, never to be found. Alice deals with Bear's loss with pills and alcohol, while Peter has multiple affairs. Both parents treat Barbara with disdain, planning to pack her off to a school for rebellious teens after summer camp.

Rookie Investigator Judy Luptack, one of the first troopers on the scene, is told to hold off searching for Barbara until Captain LaRoche arrives from Albany. Peter Van Laar insists that LaRoche, the trooper who had handled Bear's case, oversee the new investigation. While Judy interviews witnesses, she senses that the Van Laars presume their wealth entitles them to buy anything, even silence.

As *The God of the Woods* reaches its stunning conclusion, Ms. Moore masterfully ties up her novel's converging subplots. Memorable and addictive, *The God of the Woods* is highly recommended.

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

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

MY KITCHEN GARDEN

Text and photo by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

I had vegetable gardens wherever I lived for pretty much all of my adult life. My last one before moving here was a large 15 x 30 foot area in which I grew corn, tomatoes, squash, basil, rosemary, and even sweet potatoes once. It was my "earth therapy zone."



When hubby and I moved here, I hoped to eventually fill that need in the Community Garden when I retired. But unfortunately, by then, due to changes that had been made to our Shuttle bus service, I couldn't (still cannot) get to and from it (I don't drive, and the closest Shuttle bus stop is way too far from my unit, down a very steep hill.)

I tried container gardening on my deck, but it's a "critter trail" (set the table, they come to dinner), and I find fencing the containers so unattractive, so *that* didn't work. I accepted that gardening would be limited to flowers around my unit.

Then a miracle happened! Last December, under the Christmas tree at the home of my step-son, his wife, and the grandchildren, was a very special gift – a product called "AeroGarden."

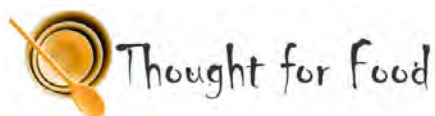
I now have my very own in-home Kitchen Garden!



Every day, when I enter my kitchen to fetch my morning brew, a lovely sight like this awaits me. Sitting atop my wine cooler in an out-of-the-way corner, my AeroGarden has a grow light on a timer (which I set so it serves as a nightlight), and it lets me know when it needs water and fertilizer. What you see, here, is what it looks like a mere two weeks after I "planted" some of the seed pods.

And, of course, it is so nice to be able to have fresh lettuce and arugula for sandwiches and salads; bok choy to stir fry; and basil and parsley, etc. even in the dead of winter. I just snip what I need, and the plants put out new growth.

I may no longer work the soil like I did in the past, but my hydroponic Kitchen Garden very nicely fills that need – and, better still, I get what I want regardless of the season!



Submitted by Elizabeth Royston

What a lovely way to celebrate the riches of summer – a strawberry dessert! Phyllis Wilson and Pat Held both made the recipe below for the August Culinary Dinner. There were no left overs !!!

BOURBON-SOAKED STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

(12 servings)

INGREDIENTS

Shortcakes

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup granulated sugar
4 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 sticks of cold, unsalted butter, cubed (3/4 cup)
1 3/4 cups heavy cream
1 large egg
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 orange, zested then halved

Berries Mixture

1 quart strawberries, chopped
2 tablespoons bourbon
3 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/2 cups heavy cream
2 tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon confectioner's sugar

PREPARATION

1. Stir together the flour, 1/2 cup of the granulated sugar, baking powder, salt, and butter with a fork in a large bowl until the butter is coated with flour. Using the tines of the fork or your fingers, break the butter cubes into pea-sized pieces, tossing them to coat with the flour mixture until crumbly. Set it aside.
2. Preheat the oven to 425 with the oven racks positioned in the upper and lower thirds of the oven.
3. Whisk together 1 3/4 cups of the whipping cream with the egg, vanilla, and the orange zest in a medium bowl until combined. Gradually add the cream mixture to the flour mixture, stirring until the dough just comes together and there are no pockets of dry flour left.
4. Using a 1/3 cup measure or cookie scoop, drop leveled scoops of the shortcake dough onto parchment-lined rimmed baking sheets, spacing the dough mounds at least 2 inches apart. Press the dough rounds to flatten slightly. Bake until the tops are golden brown, about 15 minutes, rotating the pans between the upper and lower racks halfway through baking.
5. While the shortcakes are baking, combine the strawberries, bourbon, brown sugar, and vanilla in a medium bowl. Stir to coat the berries, then set aside to let the berries release their juices.
6. In another bowl, using a hand mixer, whip the heavy cream until soft peaks form. Add the confectioner's sugar and vanilla and continue to whip until stiff peaks form.
7. To serve, halve a shortcake, then place a dollop of whipped cream followed by berries. Top with the other scone half, then repeat with the remaining shortcakes, berries and whipped cream. Serve immediately.



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<p>FOOT DOCTOR - HOME VISITS - Gentle foot care available in the quiet comfort of your home. Dr. Harry C. Prywes - A seasoned podiatrist with extensive experience, serving Heritage Hills and Westchester residents for over 30 years. To schedule an appointment: Call 914-723-0125.</p>	<p>CASH PAID FOR ALL JEWELRY! Estate Jewelry, Costume Jewelry, Handbags, Watches, Perfumes, Vintage Clothing, Books, Furs, Religious Medals. CAROL: 914-261-6464</p>
<p>COMPUTER HELP - Repairs, Upgrades, Networking, Netflix, Bluray, Homelink, Viruses removed. Experienced Professional, Reasonably Priced. Ask for Josh or Ish at MisterComputer.com, 914-739-3322.</p>	<p>COMPANION AVAILABLE Heritage Hills Resident with several years of experience available weekdays to provide companionship and assistance. Daily chores include rides to local medical appointments, shopping, meal preparation, laundry & light housekeeping. References available upon request. Call Ruth: 914-261-1165</p>
<p>Professional Organizer, Andréa Deinstadt for closet organizing, bill paying, downsizing, and estate clearing. Serving Heritage Hills for 10 years. Competent, reliable, caring. 914.391.8816 to arrange complimentary meeting. www.OrganizingWisdom.com</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL HANDYMAN SERVICES, NAJO CONSULTING, LLC Power Washing, Gutter Cleaning, Painting, Tiling and Grout Replacement, Fixture Replacement, Debris Clearing and Removal, Furniture Assembly and More... Licensed and Insured. CALL TODAY: 718-712-0400</p>
<p>ONE HANDYMAN - Friendly & Dependable Service. Miscellaneous Repairs and Homeowner Help. Insured / License: WC-23531-H10. Call for Services List. Bob Carpenter (H)914-232-0501, (C)845-664-2363</p>	<p>BENEVELONT BIBLIOFILE BUYING BOOKS OLD & RARE CALL CAROL: 914-533-2569 or 914-482-3971(Cell)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	<p>NEED HELP GETTING TO AND FROM DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS? LIGHT HOUSEWORK? RUNNING ERRANDS? PLEASE CALL JENNIFER BETTINI 845-803-6058</p>

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