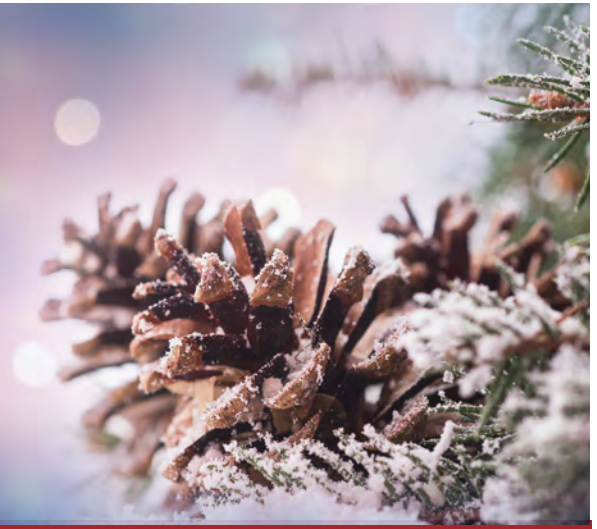




THE OFFICIAL
*Heritage
Hills
Newsletter*
DECEMBER 2024



Season's Greetings

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

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 Kobroæ, 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

VVNA Home Health Services, part of Northwell Health at Home

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

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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



HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

By Jack Mattes

Saturday, December 7, from 2 to 4 pm in the Heritage Room

Children living at Heritage Hills are invited to bring their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends to this year's *TOYS FOR TOTS* Holiday Extravaganza. Admission cost is an unwrapped new toy (or toys), which will be distributed to underprivileged children in Westchester County by the United States Marine Corps Reserves.

We're planning to have:

- **Games:** *Pin the Nose on the Snowman* and *Ring Toss*.
- **Art:** Two different projects.
- **Santa, Mrs. Claus and an Elf** all plan to visit.
- **Refreshments and snacks** for young and old, including candy canes, Chanukah gelt and eggnog.

Unable to attend? Leave unwrapped toys in the Toys For Tots collection boxes at the Activities Center and Lake Lodge. You can place a check payable to "Marine Toys For Tots Foundation" in an envelope and bring it to the *TOYS FOR TOTS* mail slot outside the Activities Office **until December 9**.



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.

THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA: A BETTER OBAMACARE OR MEDICARE-FOR-ALL?

A lecture by Jonathan Engel, Ph.D., Professor of Public Affairs at Baruch College, CUNY

Tuesday, December 3, at 1:30 pm

Dr. Engel teaches courses on healthcare policy in the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs in New York City. He also conducts research on the historical evolution of United States health and social welfare policy. Dr. Engel has written numerous books including *Doctors and Reformers: Discussion and Debate on Health Policy* (2002) and *Unaffordable: American Healthcare from Johnson to Trump* (2018).

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

He will use his expertise to help us better understand the current complexities of United States healthcare and discuss options for the future.

ANYTHING GOES: THE MUSIC OF COLE PORTER

A lecture-recital by Peter Muir, internationally recognized pianist, vocalist, educator, musicologist, and conductor

Tuesday, December 10, at 1:30 pm

Cole Porter (1891-1964), the creator of classic musicals like *Anything Goes* and *Kiss Me Kate* as well as numerous standards such as *Night and Day* and *Just One of Those Things*, is rightly regarded as one of the greatest of American songwriters. His songs typically combine unforgettable melodies with urbane, witty lyrics, and, perhaps more than any other, perfectly embody the sophistication of his era. This lecture-recital looks in depth at some of Porter's most iconic work, showing what makes it unique and placing it within the context of American popular music of his time.

CANNABIS NOW: THE HEALING BENEFITS OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA

A lecture by Lynn Parodneck, M.D., Certified Medical Marijuana Practitioner

Tuesday, December 17, at 1:30 pm

Dr. Parodneck is a physician who originally specialized in obstetrics and gynecology but made a major career transition to become a medical cannabis specialist in 2016. Now a leading expert who has

continued on page 4

ON THE COVER

Amy Saland captured this sunset from West Hill's Condo 22.

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COMING EVENTS

treated over 1,000 patients, Dr. Parodneck will discuss many aspects of cannabis as medicine, including types of medical problems it can help, dispensary programs, and methods of ingestion. Her talk will specifically highlight senior issues and dementia.

* * *

10-A-MEN CLUB

By Mike McBride

WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesdays at 10 am in the Heritage Room

December 4 . . . **United for the Troops**

How to help with incidental items for our Troops

December 11 . . . **John Milligan, Heritage Hills Property Manager**

Updates

December 18 . . . **Robert Casasanta – Heritage Hills Security**

How to recognize Scams

December 25 . . . **No.Meeting – Merry Christmas,**

Happy Chanukah

January 1 **No Meeting – Happy New Year**

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 until 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.

* * *



By Joyce Spector

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

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

THE TORAH IN THE TAROT CARDS

Sunday, December 15, at 1 pm in the Activities Center

Stav Appel, the author of *The Torah in the Tarot*, will present a program about references to Hebrew letters, Torah stories, Judaic ritual objects, and Jewish holy days that can be found concealed in the oldest known decks of the Tarot. Were the original cards a tool for clandestine Jewish education during the centuries of the Inquisition? Come hear the argument and decide for yourself.

Look for our flyer regarding particulars for this event. Bagels, cream cheese, lox, and donut holes will be served. Menorah lighting and sing-along will take place.

TRIVIA CONTEST

Sunday, January 19, at 1 pm in the Activities Center

Our Trivia contest is back! Jewish as well as popular trivia questions will be featured. We are planning tables of six people; each table will play as a group. If you don't have six people, don't worry; we will assign people to your table.

Prizes will be awarded; light refreshments will be served. Admission is \$15 per person. **By January 15**, place your checks in our mail slot along with your name, phone number, and address. If you want to sit with friends, place your reservations in one envelope.

* * *



SOCIETY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

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

All unit owners are welcome to attend the meeting in person. It 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.**

* * *



TED TALKS AT HERITAGE HILLS

By Karl Milde

Friday, December 20, 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:

- *The Benefits of Failure* – JK Rowling
- *Texting is Killing Language* - JK? – John McWhorter

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, January 17, 2025.



CIAO ITALIA

Submitted by Michael Lanotte

MEMBERS ONLY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Saturday, December 21

\$55 per Member. Pick up a flyer outside the Activities Office containing information regarding submitting checks and table seating arrangements. Fill out the form at the bottom of the flyer and place it in the Ciao Italia mail slot along with your check.



* * *

INDEPENDENT AND FOREIGN FILM CLUB

By Steve Klepner

NARVIK

Thursday, December 26, at 7 pm in the Heritage Room

(Norway, 108 minutes. 2022.) Narvik is a small town in northern Norway, a source of iron ore needed for Hitler's war machine. After two months of warfare, Hitler is dealt his first defeat.

Because of the film's length the viewing will start promptly at 7 pm. A discussion, led by Bill Costanzo, retired film studies instructor, follows the screening.

**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.



SOCIETY BOARD NEWS

Compiled by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

WELCOME NEW OWNERS

By Anna Milani

Society Office Administrator

During the month of October, ownership changed for 15 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 OCTOBER 23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS 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 November 20.

Board members in attendance: Gloria Anderson, Gene Archer, Denise Elliott, Ann Harper, Joe Kelly, Jack Mattes, Karl Milde, Deica Ruiz, Art Singer, Alan Tepper, and Jay Wright

Board members absent: Ralph Fatigate, Patricia Ploss, Bruce Prince, and Dom Rubino

Also attending: Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Security

FINANCE & BUDGET, COMMITTEE - GENE ARCHER, CHAIR

Treasurer's Report

September Financials:

Income \$ 530,748.16
Expenses (412,892.43)
Credit Balance . . . \$ 117,855.73

Cash on hand at month end: \$924,126.45

The Finance Committee is working on next year's budget.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE - ANN HARPER, CHAIR

- **Garden Club:** This summer, the Club generously donated 207 pounds of food to St. Luke's.

FITNESS CENTER COMMITTEE - JOE KELLY, CHAIR

- **September Usage:**
 - Exercise room: 3,279 swipes
 - Gymnasium: 340 swipes
- **Free Consultations:** Certified Personal Trainers Mary and Jonathan did 18 of these in September.
- **New Equipment:** A new type of punching bag was installed that can be especially helpful for people with central nervous system

issues – Parkinson’s Disease, tremors, etc. – that helps improve balance and coordination.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – JACK MATTES, CHAIR

Resident Art Show [See the centerfold of the November issue of the *Newsletter*.]

Toys For Tots [See page 3.]

NEW TO HERITAGE HILLS EVENT – KARL MILDE, CHAIR

This year we had 34 club and activity displays. Next year’s event will take place on the third Sunday of August.

OPERATIONS REPORT – GLORIA ANDERSON on behalf of JOHN MILLIGAN, PROPERTY MANAGER

- **East Hill Drive:**
Repairs and Paving on Have been completed.
Two speed humps are now slightly higher than before.
- **Lake Lodge:** New water main has been installed.
- **West Hill Storm Water Basin Maintenance:** Will commence in November.

* * *

POST-MEETING DISCUSSION

A resident complained about the new heights of the humps on East Hill Drive. Gloria Anderson advised him that since the chair of the Infrastructure Committee and property manager were absent, the Board will have to take the matter under advisement and discuss it with the property manager.

* * *

NOVEMBER 20 SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The meeting took place after this issue of the *Newsletter* went to press. So the summary of that meeting will be in the January issue. A video of the entire meeting and subsequent resident inquiries/responses can be seen on the Society Board’s website and on Comcast’s channels 21 and 1070 daily at 2 and 7 pm until the February 19 meeting occurs (there is no January meeting). The full transcript of this meeting’s Minutes will be posted on the website after approval at the February meeting

* * *

SECURITY

By Rob Casasanta, Prosegur Security

OCTOBER SECURITY CALL REPORT

During the month of October, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 312 calls including the following matters:

Medical.....	91
Security	52
Burglar Alarms.....	1
Open Garage Doors	39
Police	18 (10 Somers, 8 State)
Fire Calls	6 (3 automatic fire alarms, 2 smoke/CO2 alarms, 1 other)

Service.....	101 (47 lift assists, 9 persons locked out, 11 welfare checks, 18 battery change, and 16 other)
Maintenance.....	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	1 (0 personal injury)
Parking Violations.....	2 (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*.

* * *

ACTIVE DEER ALERT!

By Harvey Savadsky

It’s a known fact deer are more active in our area in the cold weather than warm weather...their movements definitely increase at this time of year. Drivers should use extreme caution while traveling on our roads at all times, as deer have often been seen running across them, especially at dawn and dusk.

* * *

COUNCIL OF CONDOS

By Terry Clifford

The October 16 Council of Condos Meeting was attended by the following Condos: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30.

Insurance Meeting: Jason Schiano, President, Levitt-Fiurst Insurance, held breakfast meetings for our thirty condominiums. He stressed the importance of all thirty Heritage Hills Condos choosing Levitt-Fiurst as their insurance broker. Insurance companies have left New York, and the cost of insurance has increased based on the number of large claims paid over the past few years. Renewal costs will increase between twenty-six and thirty percent.

Evaluating Management Companies: Our thirty Condos are managed by four different companies who were evaluated on the following matters:

- Communication and responsiveness to the Board of Managers and unit owners.
- Financial matters.
- Document retention.

E-Bikes and Ion Batteries: Restrictions should be noted in each Condo’s “Rules and Regulations.”

Unit Owners or Residents with Signs of Unusual Behavior: Board Member should contact the police. If the behavior continues, then contact the Westchester County Social Services Office.

* * *

The January Council of Condos Meeting will take place at the Heritage Hills Activities Center on Wednesday, January 15, at 7 pm.

LET'S TALK TRASH

Compiled by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

Detailed information from carter WinWaste on what can be recycled and what constitutes trash can be seen on page 9.

If a holiday falls on a regular pickup day, all trash and recyclables will be picked up the next weekday.

RECYCLING

Commingled Recyclables - Plastic, glass, and aluminum cans and foil

- Place them loose - **not in bags or other containers** - in the designated trash cans.
- They should be rinsed clean.
- Labels need not be removed.
- Caps are not recyclable.
- Space can be saved if you remove ends of cans and flatten them.

Paper Products

- Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, telephone books, and corrugated cardboard are to be placed in paper bags in a separate trash can in the bin or bound with string and placed on the exterior of the bin the evening before pickup.
- Packing boxes and corrugated cardboard are acceptable if it is broken down and bound in newspaper-size bundles.
- Do not place paper products outside the bin if wet weather is forecast.

TRASH

- Items that cannot be recycled should be placed bags in the designated trash cans.
- Trash should never be put loose in the cans, as the carters will not remove loose trash.
- If, at any time, you have more trash than the cans can hold, keep it in your unit until there's room for it in the cans.
- Bags containing non-recyclable trash should not be left outside the bins, as it attracts rodents and animals.

Dog Waste

Per the Town of Somers Sanitary Law, dog excrement must be flushed or placed inside bags with other household garbage – not in individual small bags separate from household garbage. The carting company will not remove those small bags from the cans.

BULK ITEMS

Disposal of large items can either be arranged for privately at unit owner's expense, or saved for the next bulk pickup day (twice a year, spring and fall), with dates to be announced in this *Newsletter*.

YARD WASTE

Should be bagged, tied, and placed alongside the nearest bin for pick up by the Condo's landscape contractor on their regular day.

CONCERT SOCIETY

By Teddi Meltzer



The best classical music value in Westchester and beyond!

END OF YEAR SALE!!!!



Buy one 2025 subscription to the Concert Society and receive one bonus guest ticket FREE!!!! Hurry, quick like a bunny, to the Activities Office for a subscription form or call Linda Hill at: 914-262-7720. You must subscribe by December 31 to get these fantastic savings.

Watch this space for a midwinter article previewing our exciting 2025 season artists

* * *



COMMUNITY THEATRE

A bouquet of "Thank you's" to everyone who participated in our November production, both on the stage and off. The list is long and includes our audiences who cheer us on, our theatre members and Angels, the many volunteers, the Heritage Maintenance Staff, and more. Your ongoing support is our lifeline.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday.

The Heritage Hills Community Theatre Board of Directors

* * *

TRAVEL CLUB

ITS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE!!!

Over the many years that the Travel Club has been in existence, we have ventured across the United States of America and abroad to many faraway lands. During these years we have made lasting friendships, shared happy times, saw incredible sights, had lots of laughs, and came away with wonderful memories.

At this time, we would like to thank all of those who have helped us over the years past and present – those who have served on our board and those who have acted as escorts on our trips. In addition, we would like to give a huge "Thank You" to all the residents who have traveled and supported the club.

We regret we had to come to the decision to end the Travel Club, as we have not had the participation as in past years and also our day trips have become very expensive to run. It has also become more difficult to acquire escorts for our overseas trips.

So as the year comes to an end so does our Travel Club.

With wishes for Happy Holidays and good Health to all, until we meet again, the Travel Club wishes you Happy Trails.

Elaine Soliman, Pamela Arena, Joan Curtin, and Jean McMahon

SINGLES CLUB

We will be on a winter break during January and February but look forward to another fun filled year with new events and new members. A few planned events include bingo and movie night.

Note that our annual dues are \$12 and should be sent in by January 2025. Sign up forms are available at the Activities Center.

We wish everyone a healthy and Happy New Year.

Singles Club Board



WOMEN'S CLUB

Submitted by Phyllis Bradbury

The Women's Club Board hopes you have the opportunity to enjoy the Christmas Tree in the lobby of the Activities Center, which is our contribution to the festivities of the season. We wish everyone a happy, healthy New Year.

Our monthly meetings will resume on February 12, 2025. Flyers will be available in the Activities Center as soon as future programs are finalized.

To renew your membership or become a new member, application forms are available in the Activities Center. Our Annual Dues (January through December) are just \$12. Alternately, you may submit the following information: Full name, unit number, home phone number, cell phone number, and email address on paper. Enclose that information and a check in an envelope and place in the Women's Club mailbox.

For more membership information, call Membership Chair Alfreda Savarese at 914-617-2007.



Library

OUR GROWING NON-FICTION COLLECTION

This month, the Library is adding several interesting non-fiction books to our collection. Ben Macintyre is a popular author who writes compelling and readable books about espionage. The Library has several of his books, and we are including one more this month, *The Siege*, which deals with the 1980 hostage situation in the Iranian Embassy in London. Macintyre is also the author of the popular *Operation Mincemeat* that has been made into a movie and will also be coming to Broadway in 2025 after a successful run in London's West End. It deals with a scheme to deceive German troops during WWII, instigated by Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the original Impressionist Art Exhibition in Paris, we are adding Sebastian Smee's *Paris in Ruins: Love, War, and the Birth of Impressionism*. The National Gallery in



Washington, D.C. has a recreation of this exhibit running until early January.

Our other two non-fiction additions are Malcolm Gladwell's *Revenge of the Tipping Point*, a retrospective of his original 2000 bestseller, and *Fluke* by Brian Klaas, an intriguing story about coincidence that was recommended by a "Book Buzz" participant.

"BOOK BUZZ" UPDATE

During our first "Book Buzz" discussion at Lake Lodge on October 29, participants shared their book recommendations with the group. Among the suggested novels were *North Woods*, by Daniel Mason; *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, by Shelby Van Pelt; and *Tom Lake*, by Ann Patchett. Non-fiction titles were cited also, including Doris Kearns Goodwin's *An Unfinished Love Story*, and *A Woman of No Importance*, by Sonia Purnell.



Book Buzz Participants, photo by Cindy Kennedy

In the spring, the Library will hold another "Book Buzz." Stay tuned for further details.

BOOK REVIEW

For a review of *The Drowned*, by John Banville, see page 39. The novel is Banville's tenth book featuring Irish pathologist Dr. Quirke.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION IN DECEMBER

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

Fiction

- Harris, Robert..... *Precipice*
- Haddon, Mark..... *Dogs and Monsters: Stories*
- Roberts, Nora..... *The Mirror*
- Williams, Niall..... *Time of the Child*

Mystery

- Baldacci, David..... *To Die For*
- Evanovich, Janet..... *Now or Never*
- Johnson, Craig..... *Tooth and Claw*
- Patterson, James..... *The House of the Cross*
- Williams, Beatriz..... *The Author's Guide to Murder*

Non-Fiction

- Gladwell, Malcolm..... *Revenge of the Tipping point*
- Klaas, Brian..... *Fluke: Change, Chaos, and Why Everything We Do Matters*
- Mcintyre, Ben..... *The Siege*
- Smee, Sebastian..... *Paris in Ruins: Love, War, and the Birth of Impressionism*

WIN Waste Innovations has updated their trash and recycling rules as outlined below

SUSTAINABILITY AT EVERY STEP

Recycle right and we all WIN!

Recycle

PAPER | ENVELOPES | CARDBOARD | PIZZA | CEREAL BOXES

cardboard & boxboard | food & beverage cartons | paperboard (cereal boxes, tissue boxes, paper rolls, etc.) | junk mail & phone books | magazines | newspaper, inserts & newsprint | office paper (white & colored) | envelopes (plastic window is OK) | pizza boxes (no food or grease) | tissue paper (no glitter) | wrapping paper & gift bags (no glitter) | shredded paper

PLASTIC

plastic bottles (no caps) | plastic containers, tubs & lids | plastic one-use cups & tops (no straws) | loose bottle caps | plastic plates, bowls & utensils (clean and dry) | prescription bottles (no labels)

GLASS

beverage bottles & jars (clear or colored) | food bottles & jars (clean & dry)

ALUMINUM CANS & FOIL

cans & bottles | aerosol containers (must be empty) | aluminum foil | foil take-out food containers (clean & dry) | metal lids from cans & bottles | spiral notebooks

Trash

PAPER

paper cups (hot or cold) | tissues | cardboard take-out food containers | paper plates & napkins | wet or soiled paper | spiral wound food containers (juice concentrate, biscuit dough, etc.)

PLASTIC

plastic bags | plastic wrap or film or bubble wrap | single use coffee containers/pods | plastic straws | styrofoam cups, containers & trays | packing peanuts | compostable plates, containers, bags or utensils | hard plastic | water filters | motor oil or pesticide bottles

GLASS

ceramic mugs & plates | baking glassware | drinking glasses | windows | lightbulbs | broken glass

ALUMINUM CANS & FOIL

foil tops from yogurt containers | paint cans | pots & pans | small pieces of scrap metal | spiral bound binders | spiral wound food containers (juice concentrate, biscuit dough, etc.)

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- Jonathan Widran, jwvibe.com

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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

HH 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.

I LOVE ART CLASS: After school Art in Heritage Hills for children ages 4 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.

NEEDLECRAFT GROUP: Charitable needlecraft group meets Wednesdays at 12:30 pm in the Game Room. All skill levels welcome. \$20 annual dues. Proof of vaccination is required. For questions or to register, call Linda at 914-277-2776.

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 eveymusart@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.

CONTEMPORARY FICTION BOOK CLUB: Openings are available for residents interested in joining this Club. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 2 to 3:30 pm. Contact Myra Hopper at 520 390-5523 or myrahopper@gmail.com.

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 the residents of Heritage Hills. 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, in May, June, September, and October on Sundays at 3 pm 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

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION WITH MELANIE GAMBINO, BA BFA MA MSMT/Ed. RSDE. Mondays and Fridays from 9:30 to 10:30 am in Lake Lodge's first floor Room 3. \$12 per class. Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 8 pm in Lake Lodge. \$12 per class. Join me for a new kind of fluid fitness and mindful exploration in fluid movement meditation, breath, sound, and awareness into the interconnection of body/mind/spirit and nature. Contact Melanie with any questions and for more information by email at melaniegambinocontinuumteacher@gmail.com or by phone at 914 588-2450.

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 on Lake Lodge's 2nd floor. \$12 for a 75-minute class. Lisaathomas@optonline.net or 914-497-0243.

TAI CHI AND 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 heritagehillstaichi@gmail.com.

LINDA'S LAKE LODGE CLASSES: Body Conditioning: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 am. Rock & Roll Workout: Tuesdays at 9:30 am. Yoga Pilates: Thursdays at 9:30 am. Sports Conditioning: 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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](https://www.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 from 11 am to noon in Lake Lodge's Room 1. 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 at 11 am in Lake Lodge's Room 1. Group is open to intermediate through fluent Spanish speakers. ¡Vengan!

FUN & GAMES

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

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 will be 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 one 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 ciwhitestar@comcast.net.

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 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, PsD. To register, call 914-617-9328 or email ludwiglr@aol.com.

Spousal Bereavement Group: Led by Linda Ludwig, PsD, we meet on the second Thursday of the month at 12:30 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 1. Fee is \$20 per session. For more information, call 914-617-9328.

HIKERS & WALKERS GROUP: Weekly hikes from September to June. Information and our schedule are available in the mailroom.

INDEPENDENT AND FOREIGN FILM CLUB: Monthly screenings April thru December in the Activities Center's Heritage Room followed

ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

by a discussion. \$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.

LET'S TALK SENIOR CARE: Join us the second Friday of every month at 1 pm. Stephanie Roberti, MHA, will be introducing different senior care topics to help educate us on this important subject. Next classes: November 8, December 13, and January 10. For more information, contact Stephanie by phone at 914-357-3049 or by email at Sroberti@Newbeginningsforseniors.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 him at 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 914-649-3232 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: From April thru November, enjoy weekly Thursday 9-hole casual competitions in a variety of formats, as well as Tuesday Stroke Play opportunities at Somers National Golf Club's course right here on Heritage Hills' West Hill. For more information, contact Membership Chairman Sandy Lieberman at 914-438-6762 or golfer61345@gmail.com.

PICKLEBALL COMMITTEE: On the outdoor courts there's 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 in the Gym on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm, and on Saturdays from 9:30 am to noon.

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.

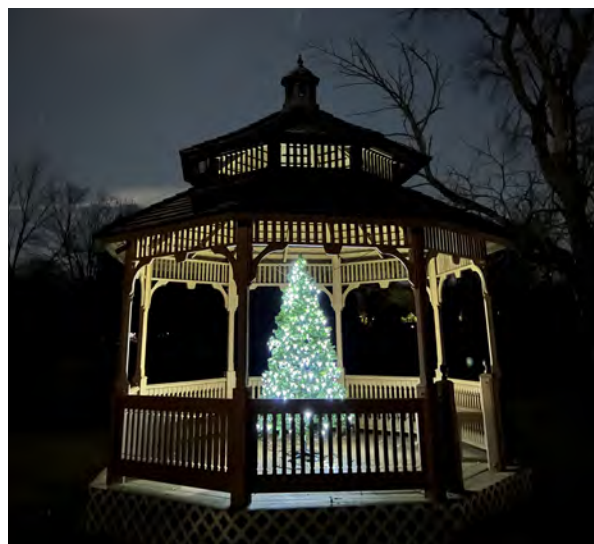
TED TALKS: On the third Friday of the month, from 3 to 5 pm in the Heritage Room, hosts Ami Stokhamer and Karl Milde (residents) present two thought-provoking TED Talk videos, after which there is open discussion. Free event with light refreshments. For more information, see the COMING EVENTS section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

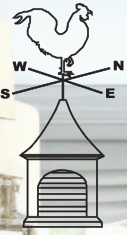
THRIVING IN YOUR PRIME: Join us every other week on Thursday at 1 pm in Room 3 of the Lake Lodge to discuss relevant topics and learn strategies that will help those over the age of 50 navigate the challenges they are confronted with. Each time we meet we will discuss a new topic, and you will learn strategies you can implement in your own life. The investment in each gathering is one hour of your time and \$5! The remaining 2024 dates are December 5 and 19.

WOMEN'S CLUB: Meets on the second Wednesday of the month, except for December, January, July, and August. See the COMING EVENTS section of this *Newsletter* for specific upcoming event details. Flyers are available outside the Activities Office. Membership dues for renewals and new members are \$12 for the year (January thru December). Include in an envelope with your check, your name, unit number and phone number and put it in the Women's Club mail slot. For further information, 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.



By Joanne Meder



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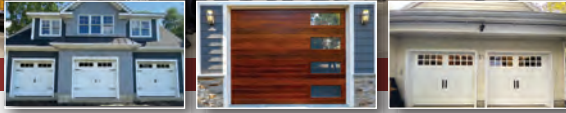
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Text by Fran Boemio, photos by Fran Boemio and John LoBello

The Pickleball Community was very busy during our beautiful October!



LADDERS COMPETITION

For five weeks, Andrew Miller and John LoBello successfully organized and led the Ladders competition for both men and women. This competition was overseen by Eric Scorzelli. Based on the total number of points earned each week, the winners were Andrew Miller and John LoBello and Cathy Maye, seen here.

FOOD DRIVE

Fran Boemio and Lynda McGrath, St. Luke's Food Pantry Director, collaborated once again for this year's Pickleball Food Drive. The pickleball community came out and set the bar high by donating more than 100 bags of groceries. This will keep the Food Pantry stocked through the winter. No one should ever be food insecure.



Thank you to Mike Boemio, Eric Scorzelli, the Pickleball Community Cares subcommittee (Jeri Bennett, Celia Stowell, and Debbie Montalvo), and Annie Pasquerello and Jean Scorzelli for helping to set up and transport the groceries.



PADDLE HOLDER

A special dedication ceremony was held to reveal the new paddle holder built in memory of Nicholas A. Ceraldi, beloved son of Jane and Sal Ceraldi. Denise Elliott oversaw the project

and led the dedication. Thank you to Jane and Sal for donating the wood, John Santacrocce for building this masterpiece, and Barbara Senderoff for her artwork. This was truly a labor of love.

EAST HILL MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

by Ken Freeman

As they say, all good things must come to an end. So, it is for the 2024 golf season. While some members played well into November, "official" play ended October 31.

October offered a variety of golf conditions. By mid-month, some mornings were really cold, with a freeze warning overnight before our October 29 tournament. And then October 31 the temperature was in the 70s for that final official round.

Here are the results since the last Newsletter report (standard Stroke Play unless indicated otherwise).

October 8

A Flight*: Low Gross – Bob Briganti
Low Net—Ed Yee, 2nd Frank Servidio

B Flight:** Low Gross – Ed Sottile
Low Net – Subhash Sindhvani, 2nd Ray Ormerod,
3rd Rich O'Brien

October 10 (4 clubs for A Flight, 5 clubs for B Flight)

A Flight: Low Gross – Mike Flaherty
Low Net – Ed Yee, 2nd Howard Weiner, 3rd Frank Servidio

B Flight: Low Gross – Rich O'Brien
Low Net – Frank Gallo, 2nd Ray Ormerod, 3rd Ed Sottile,
4th John Mahoney

October 15 (Combined A and B Flights)

Low Net: Ray Ormerod, 2nd Subhash Sindhvani, 3rd Ed Sottile,
4th Ken Freeman

October 17 (2-Man Teams Pairing A and B Golfers, Alternate Shots)

Low Net: Bob Slotoroff & Bill Ablondi, 2nd Bob Briganti & Bob
Kenney, 3rd Joel Greenspan & John Mahoney, 4th a tie
between Ed Yee & Sandy Lieberman and Bill Glass
& Ed Sottile.

October 22

A Flight: Low Net – Joel Greenspan

B Flight: Low Gross – Ray Ormerod
Low Net – Jack O'Hanlon, 2nd Jim Haggerty,
3rd Sandy Lieberman

October 24

A Flight: Low Gross -- Bob Slotoroff;
Low Net – Bob Briganti

B Flight: Low Gross – Sandy Lieberman
Low Net – Charlie Kravetz, 2nd Rich O'Brien, 3rd Al Zaffiro

October 29 (Combined A and B Flights)

Low Net: Bill Glass, 2nd Al Zaffiro, 3rd Ray Ormerod.

October 31

A Flight: Low Gross – Frank Servidio
Low Net – Howard Weiner, 2nd Bill Glass

B Flight: Low Gross – Ray Ormerod
Low Net – Jack O'Hanlon, 2nd Rich O'Brien, 3rd Charlie Kravetz

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SOME OF OUR RESIDENT TRICK-OR-TREATERS

Compiled by Keri Reitman Schnapper



*Lucas Anaya
Photo by Vanessa Anaya*



*The Kania Family: Patty as Wendy,
Kevin as Captain Hook, and
Billy as Peter Pan*



*Gabriella Anaya
as Wednesday Addams
Photo by Vanessa Anaya*



*Leo Weinstein
Photo by Rebecca Weinstein*



*Victoria Anaya, as Belle
Photo by Vanessa Anaya*



*Helena Frattarola and
her Mom, Katie Frattarola
Photo by Crystal Ramirez*



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR ROBERT PIRO

Text and photo by Rosetta Benson

It was a photograph of a female marathon runner, and it drew me to it like metal to a magnet. It looked like a painting. Or a sculpture. Who was this artist who had captured both power and majesty in running shorts? The card read: Robert Piro. And that was my introduction to this very special neighbor – at the Heritage Hills Art Show.

Robert (Bob) and Lucille Piro recently celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary! They moved to Heritage Hills from Scarsdale in 2022, mostly because Lucille's sister and brother already lived here. However, it was pure serendipity that the unit they decided was perfect for them also turned out to be within walking distance of each sibling.

But let's begin at the beginning. Bob grew up in The Bronx. "P.S. 78," he grinned as only a kid proud to be from The Bronx can, and he graduated from City College. He retired eleven years ago at age 80 after consulting independently for twenty years. Prior to that, he forged his own career path in what was a nascent field, one which we now call "Information Technology" (IT). Three of the largest companies he worked for were IBM, TWA, and Colgate Palmolive.

Was there a connection between his profession and his avocation: photography? "There definitely was with Colgate Palmolive." Because it was an international company, the need for his services required him to travel all over the world. How do you share your experiences with the people you love – back home? "You take pictures."

Work and vacations have taken him to India; Hong Kong; Europe, the United Kingdom, and Africa – most often Botswana and Zimbabwe. Lucille was not always able to travel with him, but they had one place they went to year after year together – Montauk. She shows me *her* favorite photograph of his on the wall: two surf casters on the beach below the Montauk Point lighthouse, one fisherman kneeling beside his catch: one very large striped bass. *Bob's* favorite photograph shows a woman and child in an ox cart taken in Myanmar (Burma). Your eye catches a small detail; there's moonlight shining on her face.

He asks me if I know the Bing Crosby song, *Down the Old Ox Road*? I do.

Ox road could be any romantic spot:

A country highway or a moonlit yacht.

It could be in the parlor when the lights are burning low.

It could be in the movie in the very last row

There's that magnetic tug, *the force that cannot be explained*. Bob's photographs have everything a good picture must have, and more. He says, "I look for emotion."

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

By Patricia Adams

On a crisp, sunny Sunday afternoon, a hundred or so residents filled the Heritage Room, where the Concert Society was offering its last classical performance for the year: Soheil Nasser, an internationally acclaimed pianist, presenting a program of Mozart, Chopin, and Bernstein.

The music was excellent until we all clapped demanding an encore. Mr. Nasser, chose *Swanee*, one of the most racist songs in America. According to Wikipedia, "*Swanee* was composed in 1919 by George Gershwin, with lyrics by Irving Caesar. It is most often associated with singer Al Jolson" wearing blackface. I didn't want to disrupt the concert, but I couldn't just sit there like it didn't matter. I got up and walked out.

Not 15 minutes after arriving home, fellow *Newsletter* Committee member Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi, who had been seated elsewhere in the room at the concert, called; and the first word out of her mouth – in her fabulously outraged tone – was "*Swanee?!?!?!?!?*" She commiserated and updated me on how she and others reacted after I had left.

Readers, there is nothing quite so heartwarming as when someone "gets" what's happening to you, jumps in to help like it's happening to *them*, and gives you all the "oohs" and "aahs" that go with it.

Susan told me that another *Newsletter* Committee member who was present, Rosetta Benson, had observed what happened and immediately spoke with Concert Society Co-President Raina Lefkowitz, who agreed some resolution was required. Since a Concert Society member would

be driving Mr. Nasser to the train station, they agreed to chat with him during the drive about his song choice. Heritage Hills' advocacy brigade was on it.

By 8 pm that evening, Mr. Nasser called me full of profuse apologies. I have no idea how he got my phone number. He was on a mission. It turns out he had not researched the song and had no knowledge of its potential insult. I was both surprised by and appreciative of his call. We spoke for ten minutes, and he took his time to apologize.

That would have been more than enough, but there's more...

The next day, en route to the Morning Discussion Group, Rosetta and Susan agreed that what happened the day before was fodder for that morning's agenda. They approached Group Chair Ken Benjamin, who agreed, and when Raina arrived prior to the meeting, Susan updated her, and she concurred.

Susan, Rosetta, and Raina recapped everything for the group, and a fantastic discussion ensued. One observation was that young Mr. Nasser might not know the song's history. It turns out they were right. Ultimately, what could have resulted in hurt feelings turned into a teachable moment for all, and demonstrated sensitivity and teamwork across Heritage Hills group lines.

In the end, it's all about community. Heritage Hills gets my vote! Thank you, Susan, Rosetta, the Concert Society – especially Raina – and Ken.

It takes a village.

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TINY VISITOR

Text and photos by Amy Saland

We had a tiny visitor on our deck as I removed dead flowers from the pots. This little grey tree frog was hidden in a large pot. He was camouflaging with the deck, which is one floor above ground level!



Pinky for size perspective.

* * *

OUR CULINARY CLUB VISITS THE BRONX'S "LITTLE ITALY"

By Elizabeth Royston



In the heart of the Bronx sits an authentic Italian neighborhood, home to multi-generational family businesses, many of which are still owned and operated by the same families that started them nearly

a century ago and earlier. From baquettes and burrata to pasta and pastries, the thriving business district includes worldclass restaurants, high quality food shops, and specialty stores carrying hand made local and imported items that you would be hard pressed to find elsewhere.

In lieu of the Culinary Club's regular September meeting, hosts Pat Conetta, Pat Santamoreno, and Linda Schroder elected to plan a field trip to this special place - Arthur Avenue. Ten of our members made their way to have lunch at a highly recommended restaurant, Emilia's, and from there the group broke up to do some serious shopping.



Members went to Borgatti's for home made pastas, Teitel Brothers for amazing Parmigiano Regianno, Biancardi's for specialty meats, and Casa Della Mozzarella for fresh mozzarella. Of course the breads from Terranova and the cannolis from

Artuso's could not be ignored.

Sated and carrying shopping bags, our intrepid field trippers returned to Heritage Hills at the end of a lovely, exciting adventure trip to The Bronx's "Little Italy" on Arthur Avenue.

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE SAFETY IN THE HOME - PART 4

SAFETY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

By Arlene Hoffman

The holiday season is coming, and the Health & Safety Committee wants everyone to stay safe from home fires and emergencies as you decorate and celebrate. Along with your year-round fire safety plan, please keep these safety tips in mind as you put up lights and ornaments and prepare to welcome visitors:

- Check all holiday light cords to make sure they aren't frayed or broken, then ensure all cords are securely placed along baseboards.
- For an artificial tree: make sure it has a fire-resistant label. Place it away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources.
- For a live tree: make sure it's fresh and water it frequently to keep it fresh.
- When using older decorations: check their labels, cords, and ornaments for cracks.
- Always be aware when using open flames and candles; be very careful when choosing placement.
- When using a ladder: ensure stable placement is available for the spot, and wear shoes that allow for good traction.
- Don't use electric lights on metallic trees.
- Don't forget to turn off all holiday lights when going to bed or leaving the house.
- Keep children, pets, and decorations away from candles.
- Do a basic walk-through to ensure your home is safe for everyone including guests. Try to get down to the level of small children - this will allow you to catch any possible temptations.

As the weather turns colder, please ensure that your HVAC system, fireplace, hot water heater, etc. are all in full working order. This is a wonderful time of year, and we want to ensure that everyone is able to celebrate in a safe manner. Enjoy!

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FOUNDING THE SOMERS LIONS CLUB

By Karl Milde

Wayne van Tassel was Principal of Primrose Elementary School in 1966. An active member of the Lewisboro Lions, he reached out to Jerry Billingsley, principal broker of Billingsley Realty, to assist him in starting a Lions Club in Somers. Jerry asked his close friend and



John Harkins and Jerry Billingsley

broker in the family business, John Harkins, to help too.

The three men met for dinner in a back room of the Anawanda Bar and Restaurant (now the Il Forno Italian Kitchen and Bar) to talk strategy. Because the Lions had historically been active in meeting the needs of local communities, the group felt the growing Somers community would benefit from the presence of this service organization. Their motto was (and is) *We Serve*.

Needing to recruit members, Jerry went out to the bar and shouted loudly, "Does anyone want to help found a Lions Club?" To everyone's surprise, the bartender and several patrons left the bar to join the small group, although none had heard of the Lions before. "Some were a bit tipsy," Jerry recalls. Other members of the Somers community joined later, and the rest was history.

Wayne became the first president of the Lions Club, and, under his leadership, the club grew rapidly and eventually became the second largest Lions Club in the State of New York.

In the fifty-eight years since the club started, it has made its presence felt in every corner of the community. The Lions Club's first project, spearheaded by John Harkins, was to design and build the pavilion in Reis Park, which became the anchor for events and concerts.

Immediately across the road, children jump, climb and slide in the large playground, another hands-on Lions Club project.

Nearby, at the high school, the community comes together for Friday night football under the lights at the stadium built by – you guessed it – the Lions Club.

Every year the Lions Club hosts the annual Independence Day

celebration with food and fireworks, a family event that becomes an indelible memory for every Somers child. Lions is also there at year-end, hosting the Holiday Tree-Lighting ceremony with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

And the young are not the only ones served by the Lions: there's caroling at Paramount, consoling families struck by tragedy, and testing every last citizen for glaucoma.

After starting the Somers Lions Club, Wayne van Tassel went on to become Supervisor of Somers. He has since passed away, but left an indelible legacy from his years of public service.

Jerry Billingsley and John Harkins worked closely together with Henry Paparazzo to obtain rights to eleven parcels of land for a new development in Somers to be called "Heritage Hills." These two Somers heroes, retired, are now residents of this very community they took part in creating.

* * *

MY SHOPPING IS DONE!

By Patricia Adams

Shopping for holidays, graduations, and all of life's celebrations in America is a national pastime to which most of us relate. Some even keep handwritten books of dates to remember. Websites have set up logs for those who want to keep track online.

When I started shopping online, I adapted easily to this notion of shopping in advance of need. I had stopped going into stores once I discovered mail-order during my teens. I loved sitting on the couch, letting TV divert my attention, and shopping at my own pace for everything from gadgets to shoes. So, internet retail was made for people like me.

"Window shopping" online can be done any time. You can browse, (like strolling the avenues of Manhattan, uptown or downtown), leave everything in the website shopping cart and pay nothing, and return to it days later and decide if you want to spend money on everything in the cart. Usually not, but you enjoyed clicking and inspecting items at your leisure. No standing in a store aisle juggling several items.

When shopping for others, you determine whether the gift truly fits the person, take your time and give each gift a second thought, and read at your leisure the product details that you might otherwise ignore standing in an aisle. Leave any web store anytime, shop elsewhere, and your carts will sit right where you leave them until you decide. Try doing *that* anywhere in person! Return days or weeks later; the items will still be in your cart, unless an item is out of stock. The prices may change, but hardly enough to make a difference, if it's the right gift. If you forget a store, no worries. They will email you a reminder that your shopping cart is waiting.

The most fun is discovering an item that brings someone to mind. What's better than finding the perfect gift *before* the next occasion?

continued on page 28

Then there are unique items. For instance, I found a product new to me – a bag of herbs and minerals that tucks over the tub faucet. As the water runs through it, it cleanses and softens the hard water we live with here. It fits anything water can run through.

Many still prefer the touch and feel of an item before deciding. Technology hasn't figured that out yet. But if you don't want to go out on a cold, rainy day because you thought Peter's birthday was *next* week, and not *this* week, well, shopping online in your PJs sitting in our beautiful Heritage Hills, looking out at the surroundings we all enjoy, beats the schlep *any* day. Peter's gift will arrive at your door in a day or two.

* * *

REFLECTIONS OF A WORLD TRAVELLER

Text by Karl Milde, photos by Cheryl Milde



A tour through the Benelux countries in April. A cruise to Alaska in June. A wedding in Scotland in August. A trip to Vermont in mid-October. My wife and I travelled a lot this year, making up for several years of not leaving home. But what did I gain from these trips? You may be surprised.

My wealthy Aunt Dorothy and Uncle John used to travel the world. They even missed their son's (my cousin's) wedding because they happened to be in Australia at the time. Growing up, my imagination would soar as I learned of the places they visited.

When I was just a boy, I went with my family to visit them at their home north of Chicago – a lakeside mega-mansion built by Richard Warren Sears of the department store fame. Only aged ten at the time, I asked Uncle John about his latest faraway trip, expecting some nugget of wisdom I could absorb and make use of during my adult life, and that would guide me if ever I had the time and money to satisfy my wanderlust. To say I was disappointed in my uncle's reply would be an understatement. I can't remember what he said because it wasn't even worth remembering. His travels had apparently taught him nothing worth telling a young man.

The fact is, one doesn't have to travel at all, especially now with our instant communications, to make one's mark in the world. Famously, James Clerk Maxwell, who developed the theory of electromagnetism, and Isaac Newton, who developed the theory of gravity, *never left the British Isles*. Beethoven *spent his entire working life in Vienna*. And the father of genetics, Gregor Mendel, an Augustinian friar at St. Thomas' Abbey in Brno, Moravia, *stayed put with his pea plants*. I could go on and on with examples such as these.

Does travel round out one's education? Does it give you a broader perspective on life? Maybe, maybe not. But it's exhilarating and FUN, not to mention that it gives you something interesting to talk about with other folks at the coffee machine and at a cocktail party.

For myself, I can only say this: We are already planning our trips for next year. We've never been to Mexico. Researching and planning a trip to somewhere is the best part of all.



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Source: OKMLS, 1/1/23-12/31/23, total dollar volume of single family homes and condominiums sold by Agent, Somers school district

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HAIKU FOR DECEMBER

Verse and photo by Sue Shea

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 Christmas, Hanukkah,
 Candles. Christmas tree



* * *

SEEKING A TROPHY HUSBAND

By William A. Colavito

She was 75 years old, frail, grey and ever so sweet,
 Her goal was to locate, a great husband to meet,
 And there he was, only 90 years old,
 A man, an object more precious than gold,
 Unfortunately he had some stories untold,
 When he opened his mouth and was about to speak,
 She immediately noticed, he was missing his teeth,
 He walked quite well seemingly with little or no pain,
 But clearly needing the help of 2 wooden canes,
 His appearance was aided with a toupee on top,
 Which someone had said, resembled a mop,
 She approached to whisper nice things, to his ear,
 But wound up shouting, so that he could hear,
 Referring all the time to him as...my dear,
 When her intentions became clear,
 he dropped both canes and bolted towards the door,
 The trophy husband was available no more.

DINOSAUR LADIES THAT LUNCH

By Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

While having Wednesday lunch
 at Baldwin Place's Chili's
 with my usual ladies bunch,
 our experience was a tad silly.
 We hadn't been there since pre-Covid,
 so, it had been quite a while.
 We were welcomed when we entered,
 by "Cute Guy" with a sweet smile.
 Ten minutes it took to plow through
 the menu – see what looked good –
 We finally made our decisions.
 Cute Guy took the order for food.
 Two chicken dishes, "How tender!"
 Shrimp fajitas, "Wow, so delish."
 And those baby back ribs were so yummy,
 my friend almost licked her dish!
 When time came to pay for our meals
 (we'd pre-specified separate checks),
 Cute Guy placed a gizmo on our table,
 and we all said, "What the Heck???"
 He gave us a demonstration
 (clearly, he'd an IT PhD),
 and we each just shook our heads,
 and said "Nope...that's not for me."
 At that, he was quite verklempt...
 didn't know what next to do
 with us dinosaur-age ladies
 who truly hadn't a clue.
 I felt quite sorry for him...
 so clearly at a loss.
 "You all want paper checks???"
 So I said, "Get the boss."
 She understood his plight,
 and went to meet our needs.
 brought paper checks and we paid,
 and finally took our leave.
 On our way out, how we laughed,
 quite proud we'd had our way.
 What awaits this dinosaur group,
 when we dine out next Wednesday?



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Don't miss the chance to celebrate the season with iconic and immersive exhibits, and possibly a visit with Santa. \$10 for children under 12, \$15 for seniors, \$20 for all others, children under 2, free. To purchase tickets, go to www.lasdonpark.org/hoh24/.

NOW YOU KNOW!



SOMERS SENIOR SERVICES

Submitted by Princess Guerra, Program Director

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

DECEMBER SHOPPING TRIPS

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 can accompany the rider. To make your reservations, call 914-232-0807.

MONDAY

- December 2.... Walmart
- December 9.... Kohl's (Bedford Hills)
- December 16.... Target/Danbury Mall
- December 23.... Dollar Tree
- December 30 ... TJ Maxx

FRIDAY

- December 6.... Stew Leonard's
- December 13.... ShopRite
- December 20.... Stop & Shop
- December 27.... Uncle Giuseppe's
- December 30 ... TJ Maxx

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THE BEST CHRISTMAS LIGHT SHOW EVER

Text by Karl Milde, photos by Cheryl Milde

Arnie Guyot has a passion: Every year he creates a spectacular land of Christmas cheer, free for all to see and enjoy. His house is festooned with lights, and his front yard is filled with illuminated blow-ups, many of which move in a life-like manner. And if you tune your car radio to 102.2FM, you'll hear Christmas music. His display is on the corner of Route 202 and Somerset Drive, just opposite the Somers Middle School.

What began some years ago as an over-the-top front yard display has grown, year by year. Arnie continually adds new blowups to the display (he added eight new ones this year) and arranges the blowups differently each year. His front lawn is now so filled with interesting things to see you need to spend time when you go to take it all in. Be sure to notice Santa riding a motorcycle on his roof!

You may recall that last November, a year ago, Arnie turned on the lights with a ceremonial fanfare the likes of the tree lighting in Rockefeller Center! Print and television journalists were on hand to report the event. Somers Supervisor Rob Scorrano joined Arnie in throwing the switch. An audience of villagers stood by and cheered. Hot chocolate was served, compliments of a local deli.



If you haven't seen this display, take a drive to Arnie's house. At the end of December, it will be taken down and stored away somewhere secret for another year.

NOW YOU KNOW!



DID YOU KNOW?

SOMERS ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Submitted By Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

SUMMARY OF PRESS RELEASE

Somers Town is seeking residents to help make our town more energy efficient and sustainable in the 21st Century. This is a local grassroots effort, and we encourage all to get involved. We would appreciate your input. Contact Committee Secretary Denise Schirmer at dschirmer@somersny.com to share your ideas, feedback, issues, and questions about the Energy Environment Committee - which meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 pm - or in general about the greening of Somers.

As part of our longer-range climate protection efforts, the Committee will design, implement, and communicate a variety of measures to take to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. These measures will lead to lower energy use and reduced energy costs for residences and businesses while preserving our environment for generations to come.

If you have a particular interest in energy efficiency, efficient transportation, use of renewable energy technology, recycling and waste management, sustainable food, composting, green building and land use, join us and help us assess and communicate these important quality of life issues for our Town, our families, and, most of all, our children!

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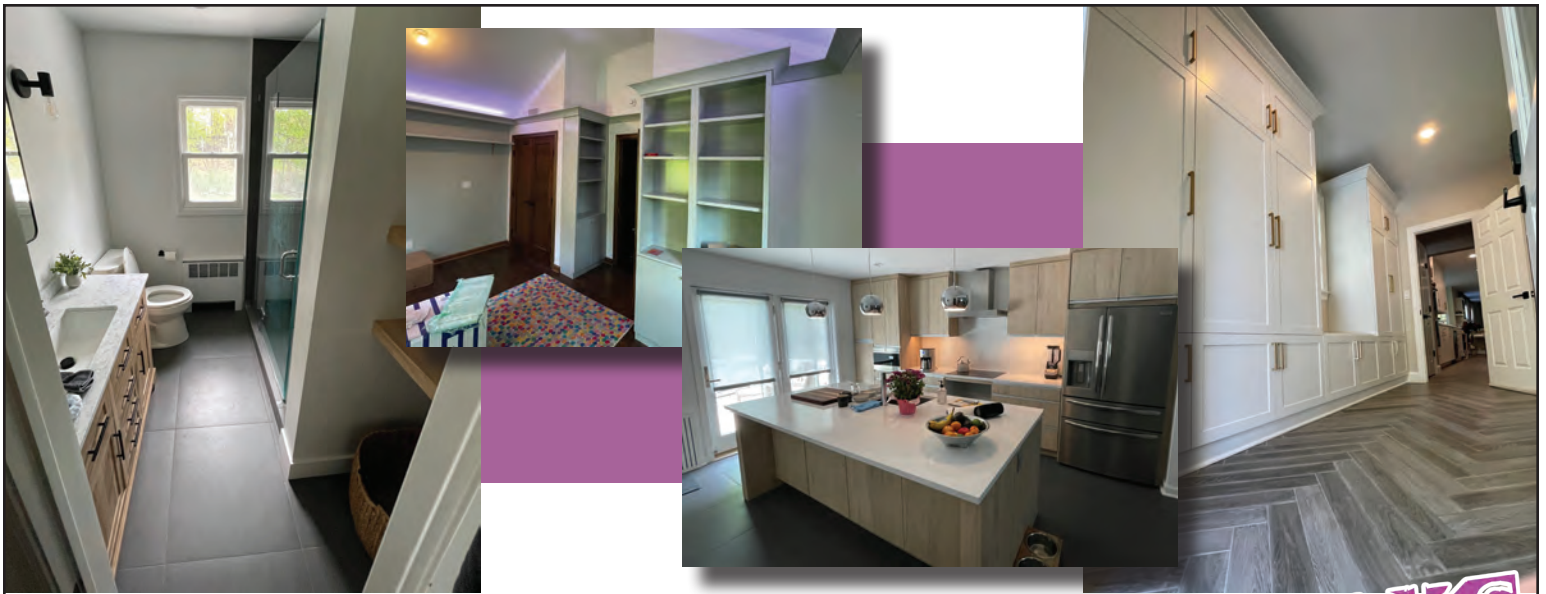
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FIT-BITS

By Mary Tedesco
Fitness Center Manager

As we are now in the winter months and it's harder to maintain/lose weight and we tend to make more unhealthy choices with food, you may want to consider one of these great wholesome diets.

Dash Diet (dietary approach to stop hypertension) - mayoclinic.org

- Grains
- Meat, poultry, fish
- Fruits
- Vegetables

Mediterranean Diet - mediterraneanplan.com

- Whole grains, nuts and legumes
- Fresh fruit and veggies
- Fish
- Extra virgin olive oil

Weight Watchers Diet - weightwatchers.com

- Non-starchy vegetables
- Lean protein
- Fresh fruit

Flexitarian Diet - healthline.com

- Fruits and veggies
- Legumes
- Whole grains
- Dairy, eggs
- Occasional meat

Vegetarian Diet - noom.com

- Fruits and veggies
- Legumes
- Grains
- Nuts and seeds

Breakfast
*



Lunch
*

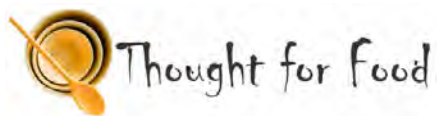
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Submitted by Elizabeth Royston



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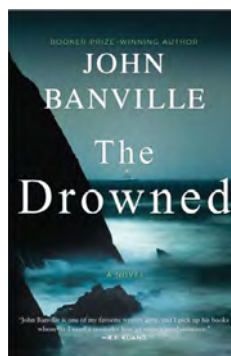
The Culinary Club celebrated Portuguese Cuisine recently and found the various dishes especially delightful. One success was the Portuguese version of Paella, prepared by Mary Jo Nowell. This recipe serves 6. Happy cooking!

INGREDIENTS

- 6 skinless chicken thighs (about 1 1/2 pounds)
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh rosemary or 1/4 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 3/4 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- 3 teaspoons canola oil
- 1 link Portuguese chorizo, sliced in rounds
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 1/2 cups uncooked arborio rice or 1 1/2 cups other medium grain rice
- 1/2 cup diced plum tomato
- 1 teaspoon sweet paprika
- 1/4 teaspoon saffron thread, crushed
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 3/4 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 cup asparagus, cut diagonally
- 1/2 cup frozen peas, thawed

PREPARATION

1. Sprinkle chicken with rosemary, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and black pepper.
2. Heat oil in a large oven-proof nonstick skillet or paella pan over medium-high heat.
3. Add chicken; cook for 3 minutes on each side or until lightly browned.
4. Remove chicken from pan; cover and keep warm.
5. Add chorizo and cook until lightly browned.
6. Add onion and bell pepper; cook for 7 minutes, stirring constantly.
7. Add rice, tomato, paprika, saffron, and garlic; cook for 1 minute stirring constantly.
8. Return chicken to the pan.
9. Add broth and 1/4 teaspoon of salt; bring to a boil.
10. Cover and cook for 15 to 20 minutes until broth is almost absorbed.
11. Add shrimp, asparagus, and peas.
12. Cover and cook on low an additional 5 to 10 minutes until shrimp are no longer translucent.



THE BOOK SHELF

By Cindy Kennedy

John Banville's novels featuring Irish pathologist Dr. Quirke are a fine blend of literary and mystery fiction. *The Drowned*, his latest book in the series, is set on the rugged eastern coast of Ireland during the 1950s.

The Drowned begins on a late October evening at Kilpatrick beach. Denton Wymes,

a lone fisherman walking home with his catch, makes a startling discovery: a sleek Mercedes is left running in the middle of an overgrown field. As Wymes approaches the vehicle, a frantic man rushes toward him, shouting "I think my wife has drowned herself!" Spotting a light in the window of a nearby farmhouse, the two men race over to ask for help.

The occupants of the house, Charles and Charlotte Ruddock, patiently listen to the distraught man, who identifies himself as Ronald Armitage, a history professor at Trinity College. Armitage tearfully explains that he and his wife Deirdre were out for a drive when she inexplicably jumped out of their car and ran toward the sea. A subsequent search fails to turn up the missing woman.

Detective Inspector St. John Strafford, a rare Protestant officer in Ireland's predominately Catholic police force, is summoned from Dublin to take on the case. Interviewing the Ruddocks, Strafford quickly discerns from their accent and manner that they too are from the Protestant land-owner class. In fact, Charles Ruddock and Strafford had been classmates at an exclusive preparatory school.

Questioning Armitage, Strafford immediately recognizes him from another cold case. Rosa Jacobs, Armitage's assistant at Trinity College, had been found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning in a garage lockup the year before. The official ruling – suicide or murder – was inconclusive.

Dr. Quirke had been the medical examiner on the Rosa Jacobs case. Reluctantly, Strafford sought the counsel of Quirke, his former mentor and sometimes nemesis. Now estranged, the two men have opposite personalities: Strafford, aloof and reserved; Quirke, moody and mercurial. They shared a "deep dread of boredom. In another life they might have been friends. They had in common that they both dealt with human beings at their furthest extremes, as criminals, as corpses." To complicate matters, Strafford is having an affair with Quirke's daughter Phoebe.

As Strafford continues his investigation, it remains to be seen whether Deirdre Armitage's disappearance is a missing-person case or a homicide. John Banville masterfully keeps his readers guessing until the very end.

(Note: *The Drowned* is part of the Heritage Hills Library and Somers Library collections. For a list of new books at the Heritage Hills Library, see page 8.)

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A photograph of a middle-aged man with glasses and a mustache, smiling broadly while playing a trumpet. He is wearing a dark blue button-down shirt. The background is a bright window with white blinds.

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HERITAGE HILLS



Since 2009, the Houlihan Lawrence Somers Office has been the preferred real estate brokerage for the residents of Heritage Hills. We take great pride in that fact. Our team of expert agents possess an in-depth knowledge of Heritage Hills and whether you are buying or selling, we are excited about your new venture and always ready to assist you.

THIS MONTHS FEATURED PROPERTIES IN HERITAGE HILLS.



DARTMOUTH

Free Standing private 2 bedroom, 2 bath, and a 2 car detached garage with a large loft.
WEB# H6335108 | \$735,000



SHERMAN II

Spacious one level featuring a sunlit open floor plan with 3 bedrooms and a 2-car garage.
WEB# H6334607 | \$779,000



STANFORD

Two-bedrooms plus a den, one-level living, two-car garage and gas heat.
WEB# H6332126 | \$779,000



FAIRVIEW

Absolutely lovely, two bedrooms, plus a den, two baths, and a beautifully renovated kitchen.
WEB# H6330031 | \$625,000



SHERMAN I

End unit, offering convenient one-level living with three bedrooms and two baths.
WEB# H6324161 | \$629,000



MADISON

Come and put your finishing touches on this 1-level 2 bedroom/2 bath Madison end unit.
WEB# H6331094 | \$415,000



ARMONK

End unit offering two bedrooms, two baths, a deck and a one-car attached garage
WEB# H6312529 | \$535,000



RADCLIFFE

This charming home offers the comfort of gas heat and a welcoming eat-in kitchen.
WEB# H6322886 | \$585,000



HARVARD

Free-standing one-level two bedrooms, a den, two baths, a two-car garage, and gas heat.
WEB# H6315015 | \$789,000

SOMERS BROKERAGE
104 VILLAGE SQUARE, SOMERS, NY 10589
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