



THE OFFICIAL

Heritage Hills Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2025



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	Society Fee	
	914-277-8800	Financial Office	914-276-2509
Society Office	914-276-2908	Bus	914-276-2877
Activities Office	914-276-2636	Library	914-276-7655
		Fitness Center	914-669-5028

EMERGENCIES 9-1-1

Hours of Operation

Activities Center

Building Daily, 9 am to 11 pm
Activities Office Weekdays, 9 am to 5 pm (closed holidays)
Society Office Weekdays, 9 am to 1 pm (closed holidays)
Fine Arts Center Group instruction and free time are scheduled by the Activities Office at 914-276-2636
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 Daily, 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 Kobroff, Respite Specialist, ext. 310

Transportation for Cancer Treatments (free):

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

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

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

Private Ambulette Services

Superior Brewster 845-278-6992
CLC Trans 914-241-0112

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

Westchester County Office for the Disabled, includes hearing-defect

Lighthouse Inc. - New York City 212-821-9200. For sight impaired.

Veterans Guide to VA Health Care Benefits -

VA Hudson Valley Health Care System - 800-269-8749
Monday through Friday 8 am - 4 pm

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

WOMEN'S CLUB

Submitted by Phyllis Bradbury

HARVEST LUNCHEON

Wednesday, November 12, at 12:30 pm at Southeast Grillhouse, 2459 Route 6, Brewster

This will be the third year for our popular Thanksgiving/Holiday luncheon. On the menu is ravioli, green salad, choice of entrée (Chicken Parm, Chicken Marsala, Salmon, Shrimp Scampi, New York Strip Steak), coffee, tea, and dessert.

The cost remains \$42 for members and \$45 for non-members. Place checks made out to "Women's Club." in an envelope and place it in the Women's Club mail slot **by November 4th**. Groups who wish to sit together should submit all checks in one envelope.

Flyers with more information are available in the Activity Office. Contact Joan Jendras at 914 276-0488 or Rose O'Donnell at 914 276-4204 for more information.

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10-A-MEN CLUB

By Mike McBride

WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesdays at 10 am in the Heritage Room

- November 5 Matt Slater** - New York State Assemblyman
- November 12 Dr Frank Turchioe** - Somers Sports and Spine
- November 19 Rob Casasanta** - Heritage Hills Security
- November 26 Gary Parker** - Houlihan Lawrence Agent (Heritage Hills Resident)
- December 3 Rocco Macri** - Unite NY

All adult residents are welcome. Women are encouraged to attend. Doors open at 8:30 am. \$3 admission. Bagels and coffee are available until 9:45 am. Folks mingle and chat between 8:30 and 10 am, when the

OOPS!!!

The Women Woodcrafters feature article on page 23 of the November issue erroneously indicated the Woodcraft Club has 30 members. The Club has 49 members.

HERITAGE HILLS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Chair/Editor in Chief: Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi
 Writers/Editors/Photographers: Patricia Adams, Rosetta Benson, Phyllis Bradbury, Dassi Citron, Terry Clifford, Karl Milde, Elizabeth Royston, and Stephanie Szuch

Pledge of Allegiance is said, 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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Wednesday, December 31, in the Heritage Room

Watch for details in email blasts, TV announcements, this Newsletter, and posters and flyers outside the Activities Office.

* * *



CIAO ITALIA

By Michael Lanotte

THANKSGIVING GATHERING

Friday, November 14, in the Heritage Room
Doors open at 6:30 pm

Catered by Ledley, and Johnny Angel will provide music. Members pay \$35, while non-members pay \$40. Flyers are available outside the Activities Office, or you can print a copy from the email. Complete the form on the flyer and place it and your check(s) in the Ciao Italia mail slot. Forms and checks must be submitted by **Friday, November 7**.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 7, in the Heritage Room
Doors open at 5 pm

MEMBERS ONLY. Flyers will be available closer to the event date.

ON THE COVER

A resident who prefers to remain anonymous took the cover photo of a beautiful big pumpkin on display at unit 849.

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MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP

By Ken Benjamin

MEET CAIT CONLEY

Candidate, Congressional District 17

Monday, November 10, from 9:30 to 11 am
in Club Rooms 2 - 3 in the Activities Center

Ms. Conley is a 16-year Army Combat Veteran who was awarded three Bronze Stars. She graduated from West Point in the top 2% of her class, has Master's Degrees from MIT and Harvard, and served as Director of Counterterrorism for the National Security Council.



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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 2025 AND 2026 ELECTIONS: LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

A lecture by Christopher Malone, Ph.D., Associate Provost and Professor of Political Science at SUNY Farmingdale

Tuesday, November 11, at 1:30 pm

With gubernatorial elections in New Jersey and Virginia over, as well as for New York City mayor, among other local races across the country, are there any clues to what next year's Congressional midterm elections might bring? Will all the redistricting matter? Other issues? We will find out!

A TINSELTOWN OASIS: HOLLYWOOD'S GOLDEN YEARS IN THE CALIFORNIA SUN

A lecture by Monica Castillo, Film Critic and Senior Programmer at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville

Tuesday, November 18, at 1:30 pm

Ever wonder what was happening at Paramount and Warner Brothers during Hollywood's Golden Era? Find out about the major players and studios that flourished in Southern California during the 1920s, 30s, and 40s, as well as the challenges the industry faced in the 1950s and 60s, as a new generation of Hollywood movers and shakers took the wheel. Come learn more about the movie moguls, studio system, and stars behind your favorite classic movies...just as this year's awards season gets underway!

AN AFTERNOON WITH THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK

A musical performance by jazz pianist, composer, and arranger Ron Drotos accompanied by acclaimed jazz and cabaret artist Leslee Warren

Tuesday, December 9, at 1:30 pm

This performance blends the elegance of jazz, the warmth of cabaret, and the storytelling magic of Broadway. We invite you to join the lively conversation between Ron and Leslee as they bring each song to life, from swinging standards to tender ballads.

* * *



By Aimee Feerst

WELCOME BACK PETER CALO AND ANN CARPENTER

Sunday November 16 at 1 pm
in the Heritage Room

Paul Simon, Joni Mitchell, Carli Simon, and James Taylor are timeless songwriters whose music we look forward to hearing when this talented duo joins us once again for an afternoon performance.

Admission is \$15. Cabaret seating. Watch your email for a flyer to be returned **no later than November 12.**



ANNUAL CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 21, at 1 pm
in the Heritage Room

Klezmer music by *Elijah and the Not for Prophets* will be the featured entertainment at this year's event. Eight passionate Westchester musicians will play and sing a repertoire of "Jewish Jazz," including music from "the shtetl," and from Yiddish and Broadway theater.



A Latkes Luncheon will be served. Cabaret seating. Admission \$25 per person with lunch; \$10 without lunch. Watch your email for a flyer to be returned **no later than December 17.**



PHOTO CLUB

By Sue Meola

ARCHITECTURE PHOTOGRAPHY

Tuesday, November 14, in Club Room 2 of the Activities Center

Michael Palmer, an internationally known photographer of architecture, will lead a discussion and "critique"

pictures submitted by members so they can learn how to take better pictures and improve their photographic skills. The focus (no pun intended) is on lighting, composition, and other aesthetic attributes of the photos that could be improved or altered.

On December 12, we'll have a Holiday Party and Member Photo Exhibit.

For more information, contact Linda Carpentieri at lindacarp16@gmail.com / 914-227-3854, or Bill Ablondi at ablondi@marketmaps.net / 203-984-2955.

* * *



SOCIETY BOARD

MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday, November 19, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

All unit owners are welcome to attend this meeting. It will be broadcast live on Comcast's channels 21 and 1070 and re-broadcast daily on those channels at 2 and 7 pm until the next meeting occurs on December 17. 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.**

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FREE CONCERT!

Co-sponsored by the Continuing Education Club and Concert Society

POIESIS QUARTET

Caramoor's 2025-26 String Quartet-in-Residence

Thursday, November 20, at 2 pm in Lake Lodge

Join us for this free concert by Caramoor's current Artists-in-Residence.



TED TALKS

By Karl Milde

Friday, November 21, 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:

Burt Rutan: *The real future of space exploration*

Ariel Ekblaw: *How to build in space for life on Earth*

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, December 19.**

* * *



COMMUNITY THEATRE

By Muriel Millstein Weiss

NOVEMBER CABARET

HIGHLIGHTING THE FABULOUS SIXTIES

Note Date Corrections

Saturday, November 22, at 7:30 pm and Sunday, November 23, at 2 pm in the Heritage Room

The Community Theatre Board of Directors looks forward to walking down Memory Lane with you. Space is limited. Tables of 8 will be set up, cabaret style. If you have seating requests, all checks and names must be submitted together, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

\$20 per person for Community Theatre members, \$25 per person for non-members. Place checks payable to "HHCommunity Theatre" in our mail slot outside of the Activities Office, or mail them to: HH Community Theatre, 8 Heritage Hills, Somers, New York 10589.

If you have any questions, call Helen at 917-554-4417 or Muriel at 914-277-8825.

* * *

SINGLES CLUB

By Diane Purr

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION!

Thursday, December 4, at 5:30 pm at The Bistro on the Green (formerly Somers Pointe)

Join us for a three-course dinner inclusive of appetizer, salad, and a choice of four entree's with dessert and wine. There will be musical entertainment and surprises.

\$55 for Members / \$65 for Non-Members. RSVP **no later than November 26** and indicate if you would like to sit with friends.

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



By Steve Klepner

ONE LIFE

(United Kingdom, 110 minutes, 2023)

Note date and time change

Friday, November 28, at 1 pm in the Heritage Room

This film tells the story of Nicholas Winton, who orchestrated the 1939 rescue of 669 children from German occupied Czechoslovakia. It alternates between the actual events and his later reminiscences.

Since the film is long, the screening will start promptly at 1 pm. A discussion, led by Bill Costanzo, retired film studies instructor, follows the screening.

* * *



HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

By Terry Clifford

Saturday, December 6, from 2 to 4 pm in the Heritage Room

Everyone is invited to attend the Holiday Party in the Heritage Room. Bring your friends, relatives, and children. Admission cost is an unwrapped new toy (or toys), which will be distributed to underprivileged children by the United States Marine Corp. We will have:

- **Santa, Mrs. Claus** visiting at approximately 3 pm.
- **Art Project** at 2 pm.
- **Children's Stories** at 3 pm
- **Holiday Music**
- **Refreshments and snacks** for young and old.

Unable to attend? Leave unwrapped toys in the Toys For Tots collection boxes at the Activities Center and Lake Lodge, or **leave a check payable to "Marine Toys For Tots Foundation"** in an envelope in the **TOYS FOR TOTS** mail slot outside the Activities Office **by December 6.**

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FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

By Deb Ferrara

BINGO

Friday, December 12, at 7 pm in the Heritage Room

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Join Friends in the Hills at the last event for the 2025 season. We have a few surprises up our sleeve for you. Refreshments will be served, and there will be a 50/50.

MEMBERS ONLY. \$10 per person – checks, no cash. Write "Bingo" on your envelope before putting in our mail slot.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN IN SPACE! A brand new science fiction adventure musical!



**Saturday, December 20, at 2 pm
in the Heritage Room**

Featuring live music by The Altogether and art by Thomcat23!, Anywhere Theatre invites you and your family to blast off into a hilarious, high-energy, intergalactic adventure like no other! *Rumpelstiltskin in Space!* is at its heart a delightful story about kindness, courage, and making unlikely friends across the stars

It's a perfect mix of interactive theatre, original music, dazzling visuals, and slapstick laughs that will leave audience members beaming with joy! It allows them to be part of the action: decoding alien messages, chanting catchphrases, and even helping steer the plot in real time. It's full of call-and-response energy! "Should we push the button?" You decide! Audience members can take part in alien dance lessons like "Galactic Glide" or join the sound effect squad by making rocket noises, laser blasts, or thunderclaps using their bodies! *Rumpelstiltskin in Space!* takes science fiction and adventure story tropes and converts them into gentle, silly energy. In our universe, it's not a laser battle, it's a dance off; light sabers become pool noodles and noisemakers become rocket engines!

\$20 for adults, kids under 15 FREE! For tickets, go to givebutter.com/RumpelstiltskininSpace

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.

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 September, 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.

OCTOBER 22 SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The October 22 meeting took place after this issue of the Newsletter went to press, so a summary of that meeting will appear in the December issue. A video of this meeting (and others) can be seen on the Society Board's website (hhsociety.org) and on Comcast's channels 21 and 1070 daily at 2 and 7 pm until the November 19 meeting occurs. The meeting's minutes will be posted to the Society Board website after approval at the November 19 meeting.

* * *

SECURITY

By Rob Casasanta, Prosecur Security

SEPTEMBER SECURITY CALL REPORT

During the month of September, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 267 calls including the following matters:

Service	107	(39 lift assists, 10 welfare checks, 11 persons locked out, 10 battery changes, and 37 others)
Medical.....	69	
Security	43	
Open Garage Doors	26	
Police	8	(2 Somers, 6 State)
Parking Violations.....	7	
Fire Calls	4	(1 automatic fire alarm, 2 smoke/CO2 alarms, 1 fire)
Maintenance.....	1	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	(property damage)
Burglar Alarm.....	1	

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@prosecur.com.

COUNCIL OF CONDOS

By Terry Clifford

The September 17 meeting was attended by the following Condos: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8,11, 12,15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25,27,28, 30.

Heritage Hills Security Director, Rob Casasanta opened his talk reminding each Condo to send Security an updated Condo Resident list including those who are renters.

Security has certified EMTs and are first on the scene if you call 911.

- In case of an emergency, a File of Life should be visible.
- Scams are prevalent and target older folks. Do not give out your information unless you personally know the individual contacting you.
- Be aware of the dangers when walking on our roads. Walk single file and move to the grass when you hear a car coming. It is difficult to see who is walking, especially with the many curves we have in our roads.
- Security has moved the portable speed limit sign to create awareness on the "A" roads.
- Security answered a considerable number of welfares checks and medical calls this year.
- Security can check on empty units if a property manager or president presents a valid reason.
- Security has a monitoring process for emergency keys for units and signing them out for an emergency or lock out. If you have updated your locks, do not forget to provide the new keys to the Security Office.
- Lock your vehicle if left in the guest parking area.
- Cars without license plates or with expired plates should not be parked in Heritage Hills.
- Security has a check list when they receive calls from those concerned with their friends or relatives having confusion or dementia. They then determine if the State Police or Protective Services should be contacted.
- As demographics of the community change, residents have contacted Security to disperse gatherings of young people. Security maintains a log of such events and is shared with police if necessary.
- Security also gets calls for wildlife problems.

Rob was thanked by the Council for the wonderful job they do to keep us safe 24 hours every day.

The Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC) Update: The final meeting will take place on September 30. The IAC will create a synopsis and current market factors that determine premium increases. The President and Treasurer of each Condo in Heritage Hills will be invited to a meeting with Jason Schiacciano, President of Levitt-Fiurst. The presentation can then be shared with the thirty Condo Boards so they can budget effectively, since our insurance renews in December 1, 2025.

New Golf Course Ownership: New Owners of the Golf Course and the restaurant are interested in meeting with the Condo presidents to

continued on page 8

discuss encroachment issues as well as other events they and other issues the Condos may have.

The Council of Condos invites Condo Presidents from all thirty Condo boards and/or a representative of each board to attend Council meetings at the Activities Center on the third Wednesday of each month.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Submitted by Ami Stokhamer

According to *somersny.gov/resources/volunteers-needed*, the Somers Senior Services Meals on Wheels Program is looking for volunteers to help deliver hot meals to area Seniors who are unable to get out. The Program currently serves over 100 clients, and couldn't operate without its devoted volunteers.

They're looking for volunteers to deliver Heritage Hills meals. They have available both East and West Hill routes.

- Meals leave Van Tassell House at 11 am, Monday thru Friday.
- Routes range between 1 and 2 hours each.

This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community. If you are interested, call Princess Guerra, Program Director at 914-232-0807.

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HEAR OUR STORIES IS ON HIATUS

By Ami Stokhamer

Live resident interviews for November and December 2025 will not take place, due to the holidays.

Join us once again on January 28, when Carrie Sears, President of the Environmental Club, will be interviewed.

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MUSICAL NOTES FROM THE CONCERT SOCIETY



The best classical music value in Westchester and beyond!

By Teddi Meltzer

It's time to unpack the warm winter jackets, cozy sweaters, toasty socks, and, of course, the woolies. It's also time to say "Toodle-ooo!" to the Concert Society's 2025 season and "Howdy-do" to our 2026 season, which begins in May of next year. We have four excellent concerts by acclaimed artists to look forward to.

2026 Subscription Forms are available at the Activities Center, with a special bonus for renewals and new subscribers by December 31. If you have any questions, call Raina Lefkowitz at 914-262-4407.

Stay warm!

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Submitted by Flo Brodley

AN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR COMMITTEE

Join us in our mission to bring important Health and Safety information, guest speakers, and so much more to inform and improve the well-being of our community.

We encourage Health & Safety professionals, past and present, to join us in this mission. You will feel good helping our neighbors feel well and safe.

To help make a difference, send your CV to Flo Brodley *flo613@comcast.net*.

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WOMEN'S CLUB

Submitted by Phyllis Bradbury

Again, this year no Women's Club meetings are held in December and January, so the Board takes this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy winter holiday season. Our Club will resume monthly meetings in February.

We welcome new members. For any questions, contact President, Rose O'Donnell at 914-276-4204 or Membership Chairperson Alfreda Savarese at 914-617-2007.

* * *

Hlibrary

BOOK DONATIONS

Many of our readers have generously offered to donate books to our Library. Unfortunately, because of space constraints we cannot accept donations at this time. We are currently unable to process any donated books placed in our book drop or outside the Library. If you have a small number of paperbacks in good condition, you may leave them on the cart between the double doors outside the Library for other residents to pick up.



There are places in our nearby community, however, that do accept book donations.

- The Friends of Somers Library will be running a book sale in late November and is collecting donations. For more information, call the Somers Library at 914-232-5717.
- Mahopac Library on Route 6 in Mahopac has a Book Barn in the basement that sells donated books for as little as a dollar. They will accept small donations during their opening hours, but for larger donations please call the Book Barn at 845-628-2009 x 143 to make an appointment.
- Some Veterans charities will also pick up books from your door. For example, *pickupplease.org* is the website for an at-home donation

COMMUNITY NEWS

service with all donations benefiting the Vietnam Veterans of America. Local Goodwill or thrift stores may also accept donated books in good condition.

Thank you for thinking of the Heritage Hills community and please don't hesitate to reach out to the Library for advice on other potential donation destinations.

BOOK REVIEW

For a review of *So Far Gone*, by Jess Walter, see page 35. Mr. Walter's satirical novel was added to our collection this summer.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION IN NOVEMBER

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

Fiction

Albom, Mitch.....*Twice*
 Gregory, Philippa.....*Boleyn Traitor*
 Kuang, R.F.....*Katabasis*
 McEwan, Ian*What We Can Know*
 Pynchon, Thomas.....*Shadow Ticket*
 Ryan, Patrick.....*Buckeye*
 Sparks, Nicholas, and
 Shyamalan, M. Night.....*Remain*

Mystery

Banville, John.....*Venetian Vespers*
 Cleeves, Ann*The Killing Stones*
 Coben, Harlan, and
 Witherspoon, Reese.....*Gone Before Goodbye*
 Connelly, Michael.....*The Proving Ground*
 Cornwell, Patricia.....*Sharp Force*
 Grisham, John.....*The Widow*
 Osman, Richard.....*The Impossible Fortune*
 Penny, Louise.....*The Black Wolf*

Non-Fiction

Sorkin, Andrew Ross.....*1929: Inside the Greatest Crash
 in Wall Street History and
 How It Shattered a Nation*



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☎ 845.628.7593
✉ degasperianson@aol.com
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TOTAL UNITS SOLD BY ONEKEY/HGAR MLS AGENTS

	2024	2023	2022	2021
TOTAL SOLD	123	109	155	139
	\$315,000-\$900,000	\$320,000-\$885,000	\$276,000-\$876,000	\$275,000-\$750,000

VARIOUS UNITS SOLD BY MLS AGENTS FROM 1/1/25 – 10/10/2025

ONEKEY/ HGMLS DATA AS OF 1/1/2025-10/10/2025

ONE BEDROOM

MODEL NAME	PRICE	MODEL NAME	PRICE
Franklin Radcliffe	\$352,000; \$435,000; \$399,000 \$599,000; \$604,000	Guilford	\$458,775; \$460,000; \$512,000

TWO BEDROOMS

MODEL NAME	PRICE	MODEL NAME	PRICE
Armonk	\$579,000; \$605,000; \$660,000	Monroe	\$519,000
Berkshire	\$610,000; \$720,000	Princeton	\$750,000
Cambridge	\$625,000	Ridgefield	\$610,000
Canaan	\$550,000; \$625,000	Salem	\$675,000
Concord	\$534,500; \$540,000; \$552,000	Stanford	\$760,000
Dartmouth	\$675,000	Stratford	\$615,000; \$650,000; \$715,000
Fairview	\$560,000; \$610,000; \$625,000	Syracuse	\$710,000
Katonah	\$570,000	Wellesley	\$599,000
Madison	\$415,000		

THREE BEDROOMS

MODEL NAME	PRICE	MODEL NAME	PRICE
Sherman II Jefferson (with carport)	\$755,000 \$625,000	York	\$575,000



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Source: OKMLS, 1/1-24-12/31/24, total dollar volume of single family homes and condominiums sold by Agent, Somers school district. OKMLS, 1/1-23-12/31/23, total dollar volume of Condominiums sold, Town of Somers, in Heritage Hills, by agent.



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*Based on Total Volume Single-Family Sales Ranking 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2024 MLS/OneKey



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Healthy Cereals
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Canned Pasta
Canned Fish
Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Vegetables
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Shelf Stable Milk/Substitute
Canned Tuna/Salmon

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Details to follow for December 13th Event! Call Hope for earlier pick up: 914-714-0090

Featured Sales in the Past 3 months



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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 grades K to 6. Hosted by Miss Judika, M.S. To register, call Judika at 914-438-6750.

LEARN TO BEAD WITH ALLISON: Mondays at 11 am in the Activities Center's Studio B. 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.

CRAFTERS IN THE HILLS: Wednesdays, from 10 am to noon and on the 4th week of the month and from 6 to 8 pm in the Activities Center's Studio B. Each week we explore new crafts or work on current projects. Monthly crafts are open to members and when space is available, we open the session to the HH community. Most crafting sessions are free (you supply materials) and other sessions have a fee based on materials. Email for more information: craftclubhh@gmail.com.

NEEDLECRAFT GROUP: Charitable group that 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.

PAINT & SIP WITH JUDIKA: Create a different painting in each class once a month. Step-by-step instructions are 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: Second Friday of each month at 2 pm in Club Room 2 of the Activities Center. All are welcome regardless of photography experience. Meetings will include speakers, field trips to various photo shows, photo shoots, and contests. For more information, contact Linda Carpentieri at 914-227-3854 or lindacarp16@gmail.com, or Bill Ablondi at 203-984-2955 or ablondi@marketmaps.net.

SILK FABRIC PAINTING CLASS: Fee \$135. Must sign up for a full four-week session at the Activities Center. Space is limited. For more information, contact Evey at 914-276-0737 or email her at evymusart@comcast.net.

SKETCH WORKSHOP: Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am in the 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.

WOODCRAFT CLUB: The shop on the Activities Center's Lower Level 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: First Tuesday of each month from 2 to 3:30 pm in the Activities Center's Game Room. For more information contact Myra Hopper at myrahopper@gmail.com or 520-390-5523.

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 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 Heritage Room. For more information, see the COMING EVENTS section of this *Newsletter* or call Ann at 914-617-9434.

CULINARY CLUB: Meets once a month to prepare, share, and enjoy dishes from many cuisines. We hope to increase our expertise and, in the process, enjoy each other's company. Our membership is limited by our facilities and is full at this time. However, there is a waiting list, and if you would like to add your name, contact Barbara Gangemi at 914-617-9037.

DANCE

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL DANCE: First Friday of every month from 7 to 10 pm in the Heritage Room. \$10 per person includes coffee and cake. BYOB. For more information, call Angela Viscogliosi at 914-393-8736.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB: Second and fourth Friday of the month from 3 to 4:30 pm in Rooms 2 and 3 of the Activities Center. This Club's primary objective is to foster a culture of environmental responsibility within Heritage Hills. All are welcome, including teens. Watch for announcements and postings about special events and field trips. No fee. For more information contact Carrie Sears at carolynnsears@me.com or 914 522 3111.

EXERCISE CLASSES

TAI CHI AND CHI GONG WITH MASTER ELLEN: Mondays from 1 to 2:15 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 take place in Lake Lodge's Upper Level and 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. Class is periodically full, joining is up to the discretion of the instructor due to class size. Fee: \$10 per class. Try the first class for free! Email Lori at eefyjig@gmail.com.

SITNESS: Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1:15 pm in Lake Lodge's Upper Level. SITNESS is designed to improve your balance, strength, posture, and cardiovascular condition. \$15 per session. Your instructor is Killeen Rhodes, a certified Master Personal trainer, Senior Fitness Expert, and Fifth Degree Martial Arts Instructor. Contact Killeen at killeenrhodes2014@gmail.com.

BALANCE AND AGILITY FOR ACTIVE SENIORS: Wednesdays at 10:30 am on Lake Lodge's Upper Level. Navigate obstacles; strengthen balance; move better for walks, hikes, or pickleball. Learn from a master teacher with years of experience, Elena Remais. \$80 for 4 weeks, \$25 for drop-in. Elenathetrainer@yahoo.com and 917-848-3174.

ENERGY HEALING FOR SELF, FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND PETS WITH MELANIE GAMBINO: First Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 3. \$20 per class. Preregistration required. For more information and to reserve your place, call, text, or email Melanie at 914-588-2450 or melaniegambino1@gmail.com.

LINE DANCING WITH THERESA: Wednesdays at 11 am in the Gym. Easy to learn and easy to follow line dances to all music genres taught in workshop format. Fee: \$10 per class. Email Theresa at zumbawithme@aol.com.

CONTINUUM/FLUID FORM MOVEMENT, MINDFULNESS, AND MEDITATION WITH MELANIE GAMBINO: Fridays at 9 am in Lake Lodge's Room 3. \$15 per class. Preregistration required. For more information and to reserve your place, call, text, or email Melanie at 914-588-2450 or melaniegambino1@gmail.com.

ZUMBA GOLD WITH THERESA: Fridays at 10:30 am in the Gym. Low impact dance fitness class suitable for all fitness levels. Fee: \$10 per class. Email Theresa at zumbawithme@aol.com.

YOGA

YOGA WITH STACEY: Mondays at 11:30 am at Lake Lodge with Stacy Goodman, RYT-200. A gentle, slow-flow yoga class to strengthen, lengthen, calm, and expand body, mind, spirit within. \$15 drop-in. Email Resoratoryoga@hotmail.com.

CHAIR YOGA WITH SATISH: Tuesdays from 10 to 11:15 am in Lake Lodge's Room 3 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.

GENTLE YOGA WITH LISA: Fridays at 10 am on Lake Lodge's Upper Level. \$60 for 4 consecutive classes or \$180 to drop-in for a 75-minute class. Lisaathomas@optonline.net or 914-497-0243.

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 GROUP: Second and fourth Friday of the month in Lake Lodge's 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 at 914-260-9182 or email her at carellis14@yahoo.com.

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP: First Thursday of the month in Lake Lodge's Room 1 at 11 am. Group is open to intermediate through fluent Spanish speakers. ¡Vengan! Contact Mike at elprofesor55@aol.com.

GAMES

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

BRIDGE - SOCIAL: Wednesdays from 10 am to noon at Lake Lodge. For information, call Marie Sugar at 914-277-4266.

CANASTA CLUB: Saturdays from 1 to 4 pm in Activities Room 2. Contact Doris Simon at 914-276-0111 or Doris1121@me.com, or Nancy Heilman at 914-224-7180 or NancyC.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 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.

MAH JONGG: Mondays at noon in Lake Lodge's Room 3 (contact Sue Furino 914-617-9110); Fridays at 1 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 3, and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 am to 1 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 2 (Contact MaryAnne McMullen at 914-414-9116 or Terry Colomer at 914-342-3610).

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 players, 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 Club Garden, send an email to hfgardenclubsecretary@gmail.com.

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

Spousal Bereavement Group: Grieving the loss of a loved one can cause loneliness and profound sadness. The Spousal Bereavement group provides a safe and caring environment for everyone who shares similar experiences. Meetings take place on the second Thursday of the month at 12:30 pm in Lake Lodge's room 1. The fee is \$20 per session. To register, email Linda at ludwiglr@aol.com, or call 914-617-9328.

HEAR OUR STORIES: The last Wednesday of the month at 2 pm in the Heritage Room. Live interviews of Heritage Hills residents, hosted by Ami Stokhamer. **FREE.** Contact Ami with any questions at 914-486-9677. On hiatus until January.

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

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

LET'S TALK SENIOR CARE: Second Friday of the month at 1 pm in the Heritage Room. Stephanie Roberti, MHA, will introduce different senior care topics to help educate us on this important subject. For more information, contact Stephanie at 914-357-3049 or Sroberti@Newbeginningsforseniors.com.

LIBRARY: 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. Mondays, holidays included, from 9:30 to 11 am in the Activities Center Room 3. Also, meets Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11 am during the summer behind Lake Lodge under the trees – with fresh air and an enchanting view of two ponds, a gazebo, and a vast lawn – with lively conversation. For information, email Ken Benjamin at kenbenja@aol.com or call him at 914-262-6006.

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.

SOCIAL CLUBS

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 residents. Watch for information about upcoming events. All residents are welcome. Contact Alan Tepper at HHCLUBSHALOM@gmail.com.

FRIENDS IN THE HILLS CLUB: Open to all adult residents. Each event 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.

RAINBOW CONNECTION CLUB: A group for LGBTQ members and their families, friends, and neighbors. All are welcome. Meets the first Thursday of each month in Lake Lodge's Room 3 from 5 to 7 pm. For more information contact Teresa Duffy at 914-617-9785.

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.

WOMEN'S CLUB: 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! Dues are \$12 for the year. Insert your check in an envelope with your name, unit number, phone number, and email address, and put it in the Women's Club mail

slot. Application forms are available outside the Activities Office. For more information, call Membership Chairperson Alfreda Savarese at 914-617-2007.

YACHT CLUB ("HHYC"): The HHYC is a fee-free social club of past and present water fans (swimmers, boaters, fishers, cruisers, surfers, whatever). At our monthly pot luck "dock parties" on the first Friday of the month in Lake Lodge's Lobby, we share our experiences and plan future ones (theme parties, day trips/activities, or even cruises). For more information, contact Commadorable Susan at ciwhitestar@omcast.net or 914-617-9228.

SPORTS

BOCCE: 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 Sandy Lieberman at 914-438-6762 or golfer61345@gmail.com.

PICKLEBALL: On the outdoor courts, it'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: Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm, and Saturdays from 9:30 am to noon, October through March, in the Gym.

TENNIS: All Tennis reservations are 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: 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: All resident men and women are invited to meet and chat with their neighbors at 8:30 am Wednesday mornings in the Heritage Room. Coffee and bagels are available until 9:45 am, followed by speakers / presentations until 11 am. Admission is \$3.

THRIVING IN YOUR PRIME: This is a workshop, led by Beth Iacofano, that is held the first Tuesday of each month at 1 pm in Lake Lodge's Room 3. At each meeting, the group discusses common concerns related to getting older and receives tips and tools to help them overcome and thrive. Some topics discussed are mindfulness, navigating the stress and fear of getting older, effectively communicating, navigating the death of a loved one, overcoming guilt, and effectively shifting thoughts that aren't supportive. The investment is \$5.

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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Teresa is an excellent realtor, and was well informed about the real estate market in Somers, where we were looking for a new home. Our situation was unusual, as we sold our condo, and bought a new one simultaneously. Teresa guided us through this process, with her knowledge, and encouragement. I would highly recommend her.

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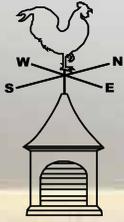


Audra was fantastic to work with. After giving us a sampling of homes she understood our wish list and only showed us homes that matched up well. We were able to find the perfect home with her hard work and perseverance

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**CONTINUING EDUCATION CLUB
PRESENTS *THE NEWSPAPERS
THAT MADE NEW YORK***

By Patricia Adams

On Tuesday, September 9, the Continuing Education Club invited Professor and spellbinding lecturer Dr. Thorin Tritter to address our community about how New York City’s newspapers influenced the growth and development of Manhattan, and how New York City quickly became a publishing model for the rest of the United States. Born in England, Dr. Tritter moved to the United States in 1972. He received his B.A. in American history from the University of Chicago and an M.A. and Ph.D. in American history from Columbia University.

Dr. Tritter informed us that the first publication of a newspaper appeared in the United States in 1690. It was titled *Public Occurrence*. We became a news-oriented society. Since then, we have evolved in how we receive our news. In 1833, New York City introduced its first newspaper, *The New York Sun*. Today, print media is just one choice. Print was followed by radio, television, and digital media.

Starting at the tip of Manhattan Harbor’s Park Row, Dr. Tritter presented an array of slides that walked us through New York City’s newspaper publication and real estate growth from 1890 to 1905. What became evident was that as newspapers moved uptown, real estate development followed. Where once all the prominent newspapers were published downtown on Park Row, the financial and retail districts followed. At one point, the financial district and retailers were across the street from one another. The growth of one influenced the growth of the other.

Dr. Tritter’s presentation was captivating and held the well-filled room’s attention throughout the full hour.

If you missed this event, take heart. The Continuing Education Club is bringing back Dr. Tritter again in the coming year. The topic may be different, but the attention-capturing Dr. Tritter will be there to enthral!



PHOTO CLUB

By Sue Meola

On September 12, the Photo Club took a field trip to the *Chroma Fine Art Gallery* in downtown Katonah to view the exhibit of documentary photographer Jill Freedman’s work. After viewing the exhibit there, the club went to Bedford Village for a photo shoot to practice the skills from the Smartphone Photography workshops and Michael Palmer’s workshop on Architectural Photography.

In addition, on the weekend of September 13 and 14, the Photo Club opened an exhibition of the work of Milt Fisher in Club Room 2 of the Activities Center. Milt was a long-time resident here and a Past President of the Photo Club.

BONDING THROUGH BOXES

Text and photo by Alan D. Bergman



After closing on our Heritage Hills condo unit in December 2020, my wife Cindy and I began packing our Port Washington (Long Island) home for our January move north. We’d lived in a wonderful North Shore community for over 30 years, raised our sons there, loved sea kayaking just blocks from our house, and made meaningful friendships.

However, having grown up in Westchester, I looked forward to returning after 40 years of “wandering in the desert.” Cindy, with salt water in her veins, was less enthusiastic. She repeatedly reminded me, “There’s no ocean in Westchester.”

Still, we agreed Heritage Hills checked many boxes for our next home. Knowing nobody here, starting over socially felt daunting, especially with COVID and winter working against us.

Getting back to moving, I found a Port Washington Facebook post from someone who had just moved to town and was offering free cartons. I drove over and met Julie. Our conversation:

Julie: *Where are you moving?*

Me: *To Westchester County.*

Julie: *Where in Westchester?*

Me: *Somers.*

Julie: *Where in Somers?*

Me: *Heritage Hills.*

Julie: *My parents live there. Let me give you their contact information.*

We contacted her parents repeatedly for recommendations – painters, hair salons, everything. One early spring day, they called during their walk and suggested meeting at the end of our block. Though we were all masked, we had a wonderful conversation. We started spending time together, and they became our first official friends here!

A funny postscript: once we were unpacked, I posted our excess boxes in the Family Focus Facebook group. A couple moving within Heritage Hills came over to take them. We talked at length, and they became good friends, too!



HHYC Club members Commadorable Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi, Purser Rosetta Benson, Robert Dorfman (Pioneer's Captain), Jayne Ann Sofi, Kathleen O'Connor, and Dan Assumma

HHYC'S MAIDEN VOYAGE

By Commadorable Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

On Friday evening, August 15, some members of the Heritage Hills Yacht Club (HHYC) rendezvoused at South Street Seaport in Manhattan to embark on the Club's maiden voyage, a two-hour New York Harbor sunset cruise aboard the three-masted sailing vessel *Pioneer*, captained by Club member Richard Dorfman (below, right).



There were a total of 35 passengers on board (no, not all were Club members), and, once away from the dock, six sails were hoisted, one at a time, by the captain's expert crew of nine and some of the passengers, including Club members Kathleen and Dan, as seen in the center photo, above. At one point during the cruise, Richard handed the wheel off to his First Mate and gave us a personal orientation / history lesson.



We sailed under fair winds past Ellis Island to visit Lady Liberty, behind which the sun set as we then cruised back to port past Governor's Island while watching the City light up.

In the Spring we plan to cruise to Lake Mahopac's privately owned Petra Island to visit the two Frank Lloyd Wright homes there, and hope to cruise to see the Towers of Light next September 11.

For information about the HHYC, see "SOCIAL CLUBS" in the ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS section of this *Newsletter*.

FEATURES

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB'S FOOD WASTE EVENT

By Stephanie Szuch

Do you ever think about your food trash? You throw it into your waste basket after dinner, then take it out to the trash bins where the service picks it up. Then what? It most likely goes on a barge and gets thrown overboard into the ocean.

Wouldn't it be better for the environment and the creatures of the sea if you could recycle it? Think what good it would do if it ended up in your garden instead.

There was a lot to learn at the Environmental Club's "How to Deal With Food Waste at Home" event.

Did you know food waste has a lot to do with greenhouse gases? To avoid that, it's best if you eat all of what you buy. Check the "Use By" dates on refrigerator items and use them first. Also, there are loads of leftover recipes on the internet.

For what you must discard, you can purchase trash bags that are biodegradable. There are also biodegradable paper plates and plastic-look utensils.

Finally, you can make your own compost in a sealed container in your garage by adding some shredded paper to the food waste, and maybe even a worm or two.

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PICTURES OF AUTUMN

Verse and photo by
Adelaide P. Shaw

first chilly morning
through the open door
autumn strolls in
corner room
the fog curves
around windows
sun-drenched sky
taking the long way home
by the burning bush
currents of air
the autumn ballet
of maple leaves

* * *

PLAYBILL

By Diana Zottoli

In the wings, Winter's waiting
While Fall takes the stage.
Act One bursts with color,
Scents of cinnamon and sage.

The players assemble –
Turkeys and ghosts.
On come the pumpkins,
Witches and roasts.

There's a fireplace crackling
And an oven with pies.
The scene includes hayrides
And a child in disguise.

The audience cheers!
The critics agree!
But the best part about it –
Your ticket is free!

THANKSGIVING FEAST

By Elizabeth Zivian

President Lincoln declared it a national holiday in 1863
Decorating and celebrating the season
Pumpkins and mums at the front door
Embracing the season galore
Smelling the cooking food
Leaves everyone in the mood
A cozy scene like out of a magazine
The hearth and mantle are all aglow
Hugs and kisses as they gather
With lots of chatter
The TV is showing the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
Kitchen is all abuzz with workers pitching in
Table is set waiting for the guests
Adorned with autumn colors
Pumpkins candles and minute
Cute chocolate turkeys
Everything is ready
Sit down it's customary to say
What you're thankful for
Now loosen that belt unbutton those pants
Your tummy is about to make a sizeable advance
Beginning with turkey and ending with pumpkin pie
Don't forget all those delicious sides

My oh my

Some are looking lethargic after all that eating

But

They are revived watching the football game live
Both of my brothers are funny
While doing the dishes I hear everyone in stitches
Planning shopping cleaning decorating and cooking
Now my legs are hurting
Getting together with everyone was fun
But now when the day is done
I was happy to see them come
And happier to see them go
Looking forward to tomorrow
Sleeping late staying in my PJs all day
Eating an array
Of Thanksgiving leftovers
Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving!



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~ Sarah B.

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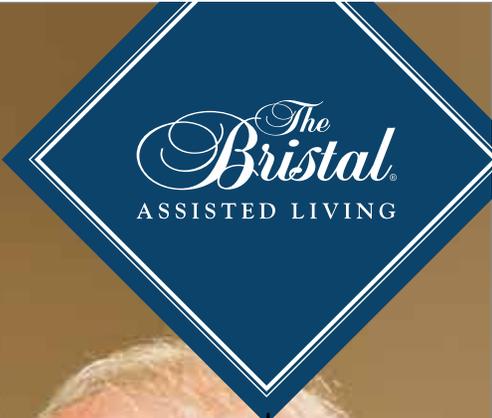
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TENNIS NEWS

Text and photos by Dena Goldstein

WOMEN'S DOUBLES TOURNAMENT



For the first time in many years the Tennis Committee hosted a Women's Doubles Tennis Tournament. What a great group of wonderful women tennis players! We set up a Main Draw, and the First Round losers went into a Consolation Round. The winners and runners up of each round received prizes.



Winners Paula, Connie, Cathy, and Lin



Consolation Round Winners-Patti and Leslie

It was a wonderful day for all! Fans of the players watched from the Hill supporting their favorite teams. We will certainly have this tournament again next year.

USED TENNIS BALLS

If you wonder where the used Tennis Balls go, the Tennis Committee donates them to the Hudson Valley Cerebral Palsy Association. The balls are put on chair legs to make the chairs easier for the students to be able to move them.

REMINDER: We will be having our yearly Winter Tennis Social in January 2026. More info to come soon.

If you have any Tennis questions, call or text Dena Goldstein at 914-589-3560.



ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Text by Diane Purr, Commissioner, photos by Maria DiCristofaro and Diane Purr



Our annual tournament was held on Saturday, September 20, under sunny skies. There were 20 teams vying for the coveted title of 2025 WINNER. The final game was a nail-biter, with everyone rooting for their favorite, but only one team gets the trophy.

At a luncheon at Southeast Grille in early October, the first and second place League teams and the Tournament winners were acknowledged.



*Tournament Winners:
Captain Reno DiCristofaro, Ben Martinez,
Antonio Pilloni, and Joe Solano*

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Texas and photos by Ken Freeman

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

September's biggest event was the individual Club Championship, consisting of two 9-hole rounds on September 16 and 18. The overall Club Champion, with the low gross score among the A (lower handicap) players, was Joel Greenspan, his second club championship following his 2023 victory. The A flight low handicap-adjusted net honors went to Tom Reca. The B flight low gross winner was club rookie Pete Larson, with low net honors going to Al Zaffiro.



*A Flight Low Gross Club
Champion Joel Greenspan*



*A Flight Low Net Club
Champion Tom Reca*



*B Flight Low Gross Club
Champion Pete Larson*



*B Flight Low Net Club
Champion Al Zaffiro*

TWO-MAN TEAM TOURNAMENT

A second special tournament, on September 11, featured two-man team competition based on the aggregate net handicap-adjusted scores of both teammates. The team of Rich Smacchia (another first-year member) and Al Zaffiro came in first, followed by the team of Charlie Kravetz and Frank Servidio. The Ray Ormerod/Ken Freeman team and the Howard Weiner/Joel Greenspan team tied for third. The Bill Glass/Bob Briganti team finished fourth.

PICKLEBALL

Text by Fran Boemio, photos by Fran Boemio and Christine Kumpan

DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

On Saturday, September 27, we had our first ever Doubles Tournament on a magnificent fall day. Thank you to Andrew Miller, John LoBello, and Eric Scorzelli for the detailed planning and execution of an amazing day! Breakfast was served and there were fun giveaways for the taking. The first round of players was the *Sweet 16* group, and the second round was *The Dirty Dozen*. In total there were 28 teams.



All of our wonderful tournament players.



Winners, Laura and Harrison Mellor



Runners-up Andrew Millar and Marisa Ozer



John LoBello and Andrew Miller explaining the rules

Congratulations to everyone that played! We can't wait for next year's tournament!

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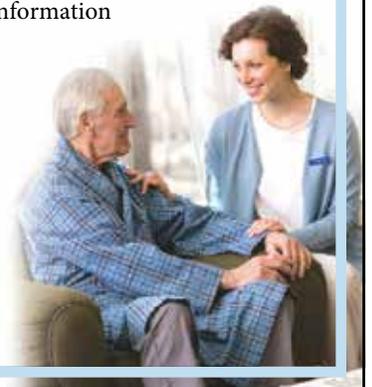
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Text and photo by Elizabeth Royston

For our July dinner, the Culinary Club chose a variety of dishes developed by Bobby Flay. Pat Conetta and Denise Hanlon Ricciardi adapted a delicious dish –



Eggplant Rollatini Appetizer – a great introduction to a great dinner!! The ingredients and directions may seem daunting, but the little extra effort produces terrific results. Give it a try!

EGGPLANT ROLLATINI WITH ANCHOVY BREADCRUMBS
Adapted from a recipe by Bobby Flay

Eggplant Rollatini Ingredients:

- 3 medium eggplants, cut lengthwise into twelve 1/2-inch-thick slices
- 8 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 medium Spanish onion, finely diced
- 5 garlic cloves, mashed to a paste with 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 28-ounce can peeled, whole tomatoes, undrained
- 1 to 2 tablespoons Calabrian chile paste, to taste
- 12 fresh basil leaves, torn into pieces, plus more (optional) for serving
- 16 ounces whole-milk ricotta cheese
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 4 ounces fresh mozzarella cheese, diced small
- 3/4 cup freshly grated Pecorino Romano cheese
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh oregano
- 4 ounces low-moisture whole-milk mozzarella, coarsely grated
- Anchovy Breadcrumbs (recipe follows), for serving

Preparation

1. Preheat oven to 400° F.
2. Arrange the eggplant in an even layer on two sheet pans. Brush both sides with 6 tablespoons of the oil and season with salt and pepper. Roast until lightly golden brown and very tender (about 25 minutes). Remove from the oven and let cool. (The eggplant can be cooked up to 1 day in advance, cooled, and stored, covered, in the refrigerator.) Reduce the oven temperature to 375° F.
3. Meanwhile, make the sauce: Heat the remaining 2 tablespoons oil in a large Dutch oven over high heat until shimmering. Add the onion and cook until soft (about 4 minutes). Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute longer. Add the tomatoes with their juices and season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil and cook until the tomatoes begin to soften (about 10 minutes). Crush the tomatoes with a potato masher, add the chile paste and basil and cook until the sauce thickens, stirring occasionally (about 25 minutes). Season with salt and pepper.
4. Make the filling: Mix together the ricotta, egg, diced mozzarella, and 1/4 cup of the Pecorino Romano cheese in a medium bowl until combined. Season with salt and pepper, and fold in the parsley and oregano.
5. Ladle 1 cup of the sauce into the bottom of a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Spread 2 tablespoons of the cheese filling over each eggplant slice. Carefully roll up and place them, seam-side down, in the baking dish. Once all the eggplant rolls are in the dish, ladle another cup of the sauce evenly over them and sprinkle the grated mozzarella and remaining 1/2 cup Pecorino Romano cheese over the top.
6. Bake until the sauce is bubbling and the cheese has melted and turned lightly golden brown (about 20 minutes). Sprinkle the breadcrumbs over the top and garnish with torn basil, if desired.

Anchovy Breadcrumbs Ingredients

- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 5 oil-packed anchovy fillets, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, mashed to a paste with 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- Finely grated zest of 1 lemon
- Freshly ground black pepper

Preparation

1. Heat the oil in a medium skillet over high heat until shimmering. Add the anchovies and cook until dissolved (about 2 minutes). Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute more.
2. Add the panko and spread into an even layer. Cook until golden brown (about 3 minutes). Flip the crumbs, press them into an even layer again and cook until the bottom is golden brown (about 3 minutes longer). Add the lemon zest and season with pepper and more salt, if desired.
3. Spread on a large plate or sheet pan and let cool. Store, tightly covered, in a cool, dry place for 1 day, or in the refrigerator for up to 3 days. Re-crisp in a dry skillet over low heat before using.



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THE BOOK SHELF

By Cindy Kennedy

Rhys Kinnick, the acerbic lead character of *So Far Gone*, Jess Walter's latest novel, is a 21st Century Everyman of sorts. Estranged from his family over differing political views, Kinnick has been living "off the grid" for seven years in a remote cabin deep in the North Pacific woods.

One afternoon, when two young kids turn up on Kinnick's crumbling front porch, he assumes they are selling candy or magazines. "We aren't selling anything," the boy said. "We're your grandchildren." Kinnick did not recognize Leah and Asher, now ages 13 and 9.

The family's discord began in November 2016 during Thanksgiving dinner at the home of Kinnick's daughter Bethany and her conspiracy-loving husband Shane. Kinnick, a retired environmental journalist, prides himself on being open-minded. While the family watched football on TV, however, Shane ranted about the "deep state" controlling the National Football League. One thing led to another, a fight broke out, and Kinnick's self-imposed exile began.

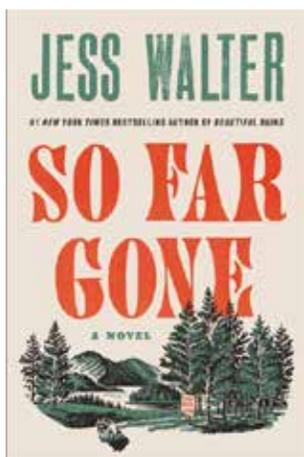
Ditching his cell phone ("that \$600 pop-tart of modern science"), Kinnick cut off communication with his family and the outside world. Clearing out his apartment, he headed to his grandfather's abandoned 40-acre sheep ranch north of Spokane. After Kinnick fixed up the dilapidated cabin, he frittered away his time reading the "great works of philosophy, science, and literature," while fending off marauding raccoons.

The grandkids' surprise visit to Kinnick's wooded retreat caught him off guard. His daughter Bethany is not with her kids. Instead, Leah and Asher are standing there with Anna Gaines, a neighbor, who read a note from Bethany: "I had to leave in a hurry. I know that this is a lot to ask but can you take my kids to my father, Rhys Kinnick. He is a recluse who cut off contact with our family..."

Kinnick suspects that Bethany may have run off to join a commune. Settling the kids in the care of his friends, a Native American couple, Kinnick comes up with a plan to rescue his daughter. Accompanied by his ex-girlfriend and a discredited detective, he set off on a mad-cap road trip to Idaho.

So Far Gone is best enjoyed as a contemporary fable, laced with Jess Walter's satirical wit. Despite sporadic scenes of chaos, *So Far Gone* essentially is a story about a fractured family coming together. In the novel's preface, the author quotes Thoreau: "Not till we are lost...till we have lost the world, do we begin to find ourselves."

(*So Far Gone* is part of the Heritage Hills Library and Somers Library collections. For a list of new books at Heritage Hills Library, see page 35.)



FIT-BITS

By Mary Tedesco

Fitness Center Manager

CREATIVE WAYS TO MOVE MORE WITHOUT HITTING THE GYM

Some days we don't have 30 to 60 minutes of time to commit to going to the gym or fitness center. On those days here are some great ways to sneak in some physical activity:

- **Use What You've Got**

Body Weight exercises or using household items as light weights works great. You can do Body Weight workouts – like squats, planks, push-ups, and lunges – a anywhere, in your backyard, a hotel room, or your living room.

- **Do-It-Yourself Resistance**

Backpacks are super helpful to add weight for squats and lunges. Cans of soup and water bottles are great for bicep curls or lateral raises. If they seem light, do higher repetitions.

- **Walking**

Go to the track and walk or run around, or go up and down the stairs or bleachers which is a fantastic lower body and cardio workout.

- **Hiking and Biking**

These work well as a mental reset, allowing you to breathe fresh air and get your workout in at the same time. Varying your routes helps keep it super fun.

- **Recreational Sports**

Involvement such as joining the work softball team or a community league of volleyball or soccer helps with socialization.

Staying fit can be fun and creative at the same time!

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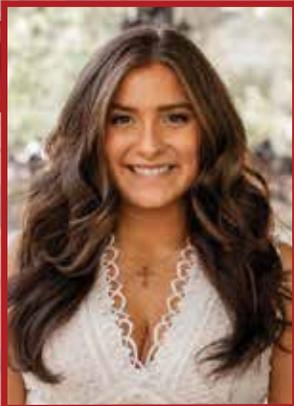
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