



THE OFFICIAL

Heritage Hills Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2026



Volume 204

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

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

Wednesday, February 11, at 1:30 pm in the Heritage Room

The Women's Club is starting off 2026 with a Wine and Cheese Party for **MEMBERS ONLY**. In addition to wine and cheese, we will have soda, water, coffee, tea, and dessert. There is no charge. Flyers are available in the Activities office. Fill out the bottom portion and return it **by February 4**. Alternatively, reservations can be made by writing on a slip of paper your name and phone number, and placing it in the Women's Club mail slot outside the Activities Office. If you have any questions, call Joan Jendras at 914-276-0488.

If you have not renewed your annual membership or would like to join our club, fill out the membership form available in the Activities Center. It can also be placed in the mail slot there.

* * *

10-A-MEN CLUB

By Mike McBride

WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesdays at 10 am in the Heritage Room

- February 4**Gina Arena – Somers Town Councilwoman
- February 11**John Milligan – HH Property Manager
- February 18**Rebecca Westall
- Alzheimer's Information
- February 25**Lee Golden Esq.
- New Tax Law, Estate Planning

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 until 10 am, when the 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.

HERITAGE HILLS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

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

MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP

By Ken Benjamin

MEET PETER CHATSKY

Candidate, Congressional District 17

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

Mr. Chatsky is a lifelong Westchester County Democrat, elected five times to public office, including Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Briarcliff Manor; a CEO of a small financial technology company; and an animal activist. He is the father of four children and a soccer coach. He is mostly self-funded.



* * *



By Aimee Feerst



**IT'S FREE MOVIE TIME
THE LITTLE TRAITOR**

**Sunday February 15, at 1 pm
in the Heritage Room**

Alfred Molina stars in this charming 2007 movie about the friendship between an Israeli child and a British army officer occurring during the period of transition as Palestine exerts its independence.

Watch your email for a flyer to be returned **no later than February 11**. Light refreshments will be served.

continued on page 4

ON THE COVER

When Ed Gaffney posted this photo on the Family Network Facebook page, he wrote "Get ready, folks. Based upon the bushy-ness of this one's tail, along with others I've seen around Heritage Hills, I'd say we're in for a heck of a winter!"

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AHOY AMIGOS!!!

**Sunday, March 22, at 1 pm
in the Heritage Room**

Join us as we delve into the origins of the Jewish "Pirates of the Caribbean."

Sherri Baver, CUNY Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, will present a program on the history of the Jews who, during the Spanish Inquisition,

were expelled from Spain and ultimately settled and unsettled the islands and waters of the Caribbean Sea.

* * *

PHOTO CLUB

By Bill Ablondi

THE INTERSECTION OF ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Friday, February 13, from 11 am to 12:30 pm in the Heritage Room

Tad Philipp, a fine art and documentary photographer, will explain how he explores both his community and the world to capture images with striking subject matter and dynamic compositions, especially those with a twist to intrigue the viewer. A member of the prestigious Ground Glass Association of Fine Art Photographers, Tad likes to be in motion, observing the details of his surroundings from many angles. He also strives to find scenes involving ordinary people and objects, but with a humorous twist. Tad's presentation will include selections of his work from juried exhibits and projects sponsored by Burning Man and as a member of Photographers Without Borders. He will also explain how he employs generative AI to create imaginative visuals that bend the mind.

Open to all. There will be a \$5 fee at the door for non-members. For more information, contact Bill Ablondi at ablondi@marketmaps.net / 203-984-2955, or Linda Carpentieri at lindacarp16@gmail.com / 914-227-3854.

* * *

Independent and Foreign Film Club



By Steve Klepner

THE SIX TRIPLE EIGHT

(United States, 2 hours, 2004)

Sunday, February 22, at 1 pm in the Heritage Room

Written and directed by Tyler Perry, this film tells the story of the World War II 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, an 855-member,

all-Black, all-female battalion. It is both a picture of how Black soldiers contributed to the war but also how they were subjected to segregation and treated unfairly

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.

* * *

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

By Carrie Sears

SAVE THE EARTH, ONE GREEN BITE AT A TIME!

**A presentation by resident and founder of
GreenBites™, Elisa Bremner, RDN**

**Wednesday, February 25, from 3 to 4 pm
in the Activities Center Game Room**

At this free presentation, learn from this registered dietitian nutritionist about the Planetary Health Diet and how our food choices impact the environment. Pick up easy tricks for reducing your carbon "foodprint" while improving your physical and financial health. Elisa, our "practical dietitian," will share yummy recipes for nutritious, healthy living, plus ways to reduce food waste by finding a recipe for whatever is in your fridge or pantry, and more.

* * *

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

By Dorinda Haskel

THE ANYTIME AT ALL BAND

**Saturday, March 7,
at 7 pm in the
Heritage Room**



If you love the music of the Beatles, you will love listening and even dancing to *The Any Time at All Band* at this mid-winter concert, in which resident David Nodiff plays bass guitar and sings.

Tickets are \$15 cash at the door, or you can purchase them through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) (click on "Choose Location" and choose "Heritage Hills, New York, United States" then "Find Events"); it charges a nominal fee for its services. If you have any questions, email David at DavidNodiff@gmail.com.

**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 December, ownership changed for 10 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.

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings take place in the Heritage Room on the following Tuesdays at the times indicated. There are no meetings in January, August, and December. The June 23 meeting is two back-to-back meetings – a regular Meeting as well as the Annual Meeting.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| February 17 at 1:30 pm | July 21 at 1:30 pm |
| March 17 at 7 pm | September 15 at 1:30 pm |
| April 21 at 1:30 pm | October 20 at 7 pm |
| May 19 at 7 pm | November 17 at 1:30 pm |
| June 23 at 7 pm | |

Unit owners are welcome to attend and can raise matters of concern at the end of the meetings. The meetings can be viewed live on Comcast Channels 21 and 1070 and daily thereafter on those channels at 2 and 7 pm until the next meeting occurs. They can also be viewed on the Society website, *hhsociety.org*.

REVISED EVENING SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

To better align with Metro-North's weekday evening arrival schedule at Goldens Bridge, the Heritage Hills shuttle buses depart the station at 45 minutes past the hour. They will leave the station at the following times, exactly: 4:45, 5:45, 6:50, 7:45, and 8:45.

There are 12 Metro-North trains that arrive during that timeframe. Please choose a train that best matches the 5 shuttle bus departure times.

**SUMMARY OF PORTIONS OF THE DECEMBER 17
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Compiled by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

This is a summary of some portions of the meeting. Videos of these meetings in their entirety are posted on the Society Board website the day after the meeting occurs, *hhsociety.org*. The minutes of this meeting will be published after they are approved at the February 17 meeting.

Board members in attendance: Gloria Anderson, Gene Archer, Denise Elliot, Ann Harper, Joe Kelly, Jack Mattes, Patricia Ploss, Bruce Prince, Deica Ruiz, Davis Stowell, Alan Tepper , and Brenda Zimmerman.

Absent: Ralph Fatigate, Dorinda Haskel, and Jay Wright.

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

FINANCE & BUDGET, COMMITTEE – JACK MATTES, CHAIR

Treasurer's Report

November Financials:

Income.....	\$ 535,579.01
Expenses.....	(672,164.97)
Net Loss.....	\$ 136,585.96

We anticipated the loss, due to a number of large invoices that needed to be paid.

Our year-to-date income through November is \$5,993,654.05, and our expenses are \$5,757,727, so that gives us a net income of \$235,927 thus far for the year. A year ago, the net income was just \$85,866. So it has really been an outstanding year financially. [See the Property Manager's Report, below.]

DISCUSSION TOPICS – GLORIA ANDERSON, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Willow Wood Gun Club: The Somers Land Trust and Riverkeeper have filed a lawsuit against the Club in Federal Court for the Southern District of New York alleging that lead from the gun pellets on the ground is polluting the ground and getting into the water supply. A judge has been assigned.

FITNESS CENTER COMMITTEE – JOE KELLY, CHAIR

▪ **November Usage:**

- Exercise room: 3,563 swipes by 586 residents
- Gymnasium: 828 swipes by 176 residents

▪ **Free Fitness Consultations:** Certified Personal Trainers Mary and Jonathan did 17 of these. [See page 6 re Jonathan's retirement and his replacement.]

SECURITY – ROB CASASANTA, PROSEGUR SECURITY

Speeding vehicles and cars driving through STOP signs have been a problem. The State and Somers Police have been authorized to come onto the property to enforce reckless speed and STOP signs being driven through. On the first day, within 20 minutes two tickets were issued.

PROPERTY MANAGER REPORT – JOHN MILLIGAN

▪ **Treasurer's Report:** Expanding on Jack Mattes's report, the reason we have such a high net income is the result of increased income and lower than expected expenses. This year we had more income due to Buyer's Contributions, and we realized more income than expected on rental of various spaces at the Maintenance Yard. On the Expense side, our new buses are lighter, saving on gas; we moved around the pool hours; we last bought heating oil for Lake

Lodge and will never have to do that again due to the installation of the split systems there; we saved on paving projects; and we converted every Society building to LED lights.

- **Paving:** In the past 12 years, we have paved more than half of the 13 miles of Society-maintained roads, and will keep at it.
- **Fitness Center:** We have installed alarms on the locker rooms' rear doors, which are not intended to be used at this time of year (only when Pool 1 is open). There are also locks on the gates.
- **Activities Center and Lake Lodge Automatic Doors:** We're determining which contractor to use to replace them.
- **Tech Equipment:** We have enhanced WiFi in all Society Buildings.
- **Pools:** New card access is in place at Pool 1. We're replacing pool equipment for Pool 3, which is 40 years old. A few years ago we replaced the equipment Pools 1 (50 years old) and 2 (46 years old).



SECURITY

By Rob Casasanta, Prosecur Security

DECEMBER SECURITY CALL REPORT

During the month of December, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 276 calls including the following matters:

Service	119	(48 lift assists, 9 welfare checks, 13 persons locked out, 17 battery changes, and 32 others)
Medical	74	(3 EMT accompanied to hospital)
Security	37	
Open Garage Doors	15	
Police	12	(7 Somers, 5 State)
Fire Calls	5	(3 automatic fire alarms, 2 smoke/CO2 alarms)
Burglar Alarms	4	
Maintenance	4	
Parking Violations	2	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	(1 property damage, 1 personal injury)

2025 SECURITY CALL REPORT

During the year 2025, our Security staff received and responded to a total of 3,188 calls including the following matters:

Service	1,177	(515 lift assists, 102 welfare checks, 103 persons locked out, 128 battery changes, and 269 other)
Medical	868	(14 Security EMT rode in ambulance to hospital)
Security	546	
Open Garage Doors	296	
Police	107	(62 Somers, 45 State)
Maintenance	77	
Parking Violations	72	(in handicapped spaces, fire lanes, A roads, or B roads)
Fire Calls	57	(19 automatic fire alarms, 18 smoke/CO2 alarms, 8 fires, 12 other)
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	24	(17 property damage, 7 personal injury)
Burglar Alarms	10	

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 December 17 meeting was attended by representatives of the following Condos: 2, 5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, and 28.

Willow Wood Gun Club – Jack Stein, noted the good news that on November 25 the Somers Land Trust, Pace University Law Clinic, and Riverkeeper filed lawsuits against the Willow Wood Gun Club based on the legislation of the Clean Water Act and the Resource Recovery Act.

De-icing Materials – What de-icing materials are used within our Condo roadways and on the main roads of Heritage Hills? The Society uses Calcium Chloride on A and B roads. Most Condos use rock salt on their cluster roads and provide buckets of rock salt near their garbage bins for unit owners to use when icing occurs near their doorways, carports, and garages. Please fill a plastic container with rock salt and keep it inside your garage or hallway so you can use it when icing occurs.

Reserve Funds – Each Condo has their own way of building reserve funds for future Capital Expenditures. Reserves for these expenditures may also be acquired by adding an extra month's fee, which does not increase the base of monthly Condo fees, and have new unit owners pay extra monthly fees upon closing. Many Condos have had professional engineering companies do a "Reserve Study" for them to become aware of the Capital Expenditures going forward and the amount of money needed to take care of new paving, roofing, lighting, and other expenditures.

Planting in front of and behind Units – Condos have a grounds chairperson who discusses with unit owners the type of shrubs and perennials permitted.

- Plants should be 18 inches to 2 feet away from the unit to avoid wood rot.
- Some Condos restrict birdbaths, statues, and large flowerpots.
- Some Condos are asking unit owners to plant native plants, which support the pollinators and other fauna native to our community.

Bistro on the Green – Heritage Hills now has a restaurant associated with the Golf Course which has encouraged residents to attend this new addition to our community and Somers. Many Boards and Club members have had dinner at this restaurant and come back with positive reviews.

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 at 7pm on the third Wednesday of each month.



FITNESS CENTER NEWS

By Mary Tedesco

Fitness Center Manager

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

As the end of December 2025 approached, Jonathan Reichbach retired from the Fitness Center. Thank you to Jonathan for his ten years of service to the Heritage Hills fitness community!

That being said you will notice a new face as his replacement – Sam Stern. Sam comes to us with fantastic energy, knowledge, and

certifications. If you see him around the Fitness Center, introduce yourself. He is eager to meet everyone who makes the Fitness Center a great place – a close community embracing health and wellness.

If you have not had your complimentary 30-minute Fitness Consultation, Sam is available and ready to help you. Call the Fitness Center at 914-669-5028 to book it!

Welcome Sam!

* * *



CIAO ITALIA

Submitted by Michale Lanotte



The Ciao Italia board is busy planning our events for this year. We're thinking of adding a couple of day trips to our dinner dances and entertainment lineup, so stay tuned for more details!

In the meantime, you can pick up a membership form outside the Activities Office or keep an eye out for emails.

Wishing you all a wonderful and healthy new year!

The Ciao Italia Board

* * *

EAST HILL MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

By Ken Freeman

Tired of winter? Good news! The start of the golf season is just two months away. And with Somers National Golf Club under new ownership, anticipatory excitement is building.

For golfers not already in our group, don't let our club's name fool you. We play on Somers National's course on the West Hill. Nothing could be more convenient! And you don't need to live on the East Hill. All Heritage Hills men are welcome! We welcome members at all skill levels. Our handicap system makes for friendly competition where everyone has a chance to win, even duffers like me. And best of all, it's a fun group.

Our season begins Thursday, April 2. We play 9-hole rounds Tuesday and Thursday mornings weekly, April through November. You can play as much or as little as you want.

And since snowbirds may not be back home by April 2, our season-opening breakfast – a great opportunity for new members to meet the club veterans – will be on Wednesday, April 22. Save the date!

If you're interested in joining or have any questions, please reach out to our membership chair, Sandy Lieberman, at golfer61345@gmail.com or 914-438-6762. You'll be glad you did!



COMMUNITY THEATRE

By Muriel Millstein Weiss

Music of the Sixties resound
and

With snow on the ground
Our thoughts turn to June

So

Please keep tuned.

We wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day!

* * *

Independent and Foreign Film Club



By Steve Klepner

The Club is moving to an eleven-month schedule – February through December – instead of our past nine-month one, with our first screening on February 22 (see page 4). A discussion, led by Bill Costanzo, retired film studies instructor, follows each screening.

A subscription is \$25, which covers the eleven monthly films. Payment by check is highly preferred. Place your check in our mail slot or bring it to the door. Include your email address.

THE NEWSLETTER WELCOMES ARTICLES AND PHOTOS FROM HERITAGE HILLS RESIDENTS
OUR DEADLINE IS THE 6TH OF THE MONTH.

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



EMAIL ADDRESS: HHillsNewsletter@gmail.com.

When Submitting Photos:

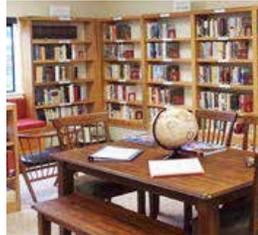
If using your phone instead of a camera, please use the highest resolution. Unless it's a scenic vista, concentrate on faces. Most photographs are taken from too far away, and if the image is cropped, the faces will be blurred. Get closer.

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

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

HLibrary

HERITAGE HILLS LIBRARY BOOK GROUP



The Heritage Hills Library Book Group celebrated another successful year of book discussions with a holiday party in December. During the party we had an impromptu poll of our favorite books discussed last year. The top favorite was *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon followed closely by *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan. We also enjoyed *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore. All of these books are available in our HHLibrary.

The HH Library Book Group participants read one book each month, with two discussion meeting options – the first Monday and the first Thursday of the month at 3:30 pm in the Game Room of the Activities Center. Ask at the Library for details of upcoming titles.

BOOK REVIEW

For a review of *Don't Let Him In*, by Lisa Jewell, see page 35. This psychological thriller is part of our collection.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COLLECTION IN FEBRUARY

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

Fiction

- Barnes, Julian..... *Departure(s)*
- Guterson, David *Evelyn in Transit*
- Levi, Allen *Theo of Golden*
- Markovits, Ben..... *The Rest of Our Lives*
- McLain, Paula..... *Skylark*
- Saunders, George..... *Vigil*

Mystery

- Dave, Laura *The First Time I Saw Him*
- Feeney, Alice..... *My Husband's Wife*
- Grippando, James..... *The Right to Remain*
- Hawkins, Rachel *The Storm*
- Koontz, Dean *The Friend of the Family*
- McFadden, Frieda..... *Dear Debbie*
- Meltzer, Brad..... *The Viper*
- Montgomery, Ross *The Murder at World's End*

Non-Fiction

- Bacon, John U. *The Gales of November: The Untold Story of the Edmund Fitzgerald*
- Ward, Geoffrey, and Burns, Ken..... *The American Revolution*



By Susan Williams

SOMERS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 2025 CANDY CANE RUN

Text by Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi, photo by Patty Kania



Billy Kania was thrilled when the Somers Volunteer Fire Department's Rescue Vehicle 20 brought Santa Claus to the Activities Center parking lot during its Candy Cane Run on December 13.

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COMING EVENTS

Sales Vice President

Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

TOP
Real Estate
AGENT
2025
Westchester
Magazine
Real Estate
All Stars

Congratulations Hope Mazzola

#1 William Raveis Agent | Units Sold - New York
#4 William Raveis Agent | Dollar Volume - New York

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

#UGottaHaveHope



2025 RECORD-BREAKING SALES!



SOLD | The Grand Dame of Heritage Hills

The most beautiful, private, and sought-after home in the entire community is now SOLD. An extraordinary home. An exceptional result — expertly represented by Hope Mazzola.
852 Heritage Hills LP \$1,100,000 | SP \$1,225,000



623B LP \$835,000 | SP \$835,000



615A LP \$675,000 | SP \$700,000



366C LP \$585,000 | SP \$666,000



378D LP \$599,000 | SP \$651,000



788A LP \$650,000 | SP \$642,500



298A LP \$625,000 | SP \$630,000



613 LP \$625,000 | SP \$625,000



568A LP \$599,000 | SP \$615,000



565D LP \$599,000 | SP \$605,000



262B LP \$525,000 | SP \$525,000



172B LP \$489,000 | SP \$510,000



WILLIAM RAVEIS

95 Katonah Ave | Katonah NY 10536

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PLUMBING

HEATING

& SON

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- Boiler Conversions
- Water Treatment Systems
- Kitchen & Bath Remodels
- Pipe Repairs / Frozen Pipes
- Drain Cleaning
- Heating System Tune-Ups & Repairs
- Boiler Inspections & Compliance Checks

Winter Ready Starts Here!



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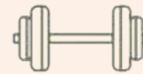
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GENERAL CLUB/CLASS INFORMATION AND REGULARLY OCCURRING ACTIVITIES

A complete list of Society-approved Activities/Classes/
Clubs is available online at hhsociety.org/activities

Produced by the Activities Office

Phone: 914-276-2636. Email: activities@hhsociety.org

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. **On hiatus until spring.**

CRAFTERS IN THE HILLS: Wednesdays in the Activities Center's Lower Level Studio B from 10 am to noon / first week of the month from 6 to 8 pm. No fee to join; some sessions are free (you supply materials) and other sessions have a fee based on materials. Email to join and for more information: craftclubhh@gmail.com.

NEEDLECRAFT GROUP: Charitable group that meets Wednesdays at 12:30 pm in the Activities Center's 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 Activities Center's Club Room 2. 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, pens, pencils, watercolors, pastels, 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.

BOOK CLUBS

CONTEMPORARY FICTION BOOK CLUB: First Tuesday of the month from 2:30 to 4 pm in the Activities Center's Game Room. For more information contact Myra Hopper at myrahopper@gmail.com or 520 390-5523.

HERITAGE HILLS LIBRARY BOOK GROUP: First Monday and first Thursday of the month at 3:30 pm in the Activities Center's Game Room. For further details, contact Sheelagh Kaplan at Sheelaghk1@aol.com.

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 the Activities Center's Club Rooms 2 - 3. 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, so 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.

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.

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.

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 Resorationyoga@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 four consecutive classes or \$18 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 carellis4@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 Center's Club 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 Activities Center's Club Room 2. Casual Scrabble game play. Play one or more games. All levels of players, including newbies, are welcome. For more information, just walk in.

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.

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. February thru December. \$25 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.

ACTIVITIES/CLASSES/CLUBS

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's Club Rooms 2 - 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 3 pm 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@comcast.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.

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.

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

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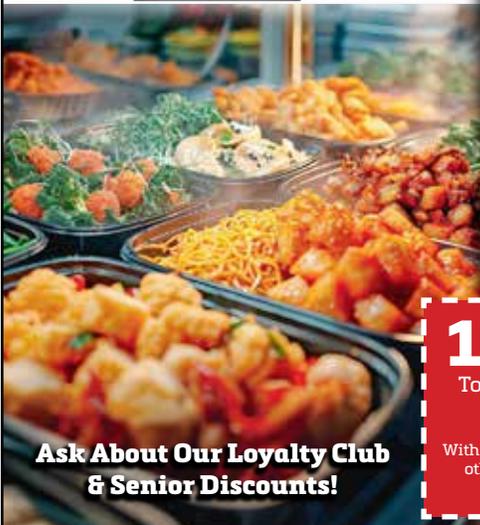
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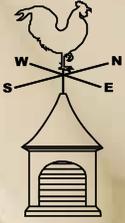
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THE FOUR SEASONS OF MEADOWLARK PARK

Text and photos by Karl Milde

These images were all taken from the same vantage point high above the park's playground area and pool 1. To get there, follow the Heritage Trail (the red trail on the map on page 31) north to the fork just short of the huge hill. Bear left at the fork (there's a bench there) and take the winding path up the steep hill to the bench at the first overlook. Stop there and take in the breathtaking view. The photos below are just a brief glimpse of what you'll see.

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WINTER



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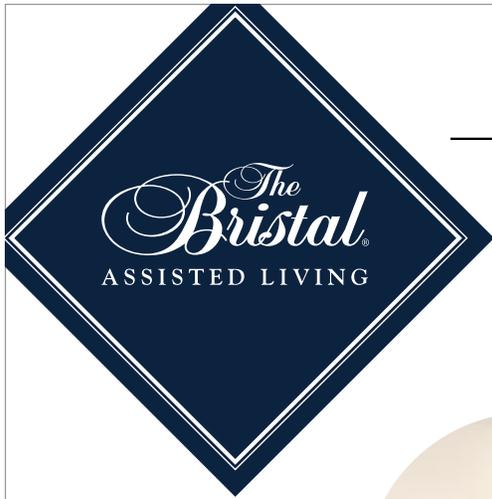
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CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Breezed through
- 5. Consumer protection agency
- 8. Criminal syndicate
- 11. Moves back from
- 13. Satisfaction
- 14. Feel concern or interest
- 15. Monetary units
- 16. Congressman (abbr.)
- 17. Israeli city
- 18. Restaurants
- 20. 2,000 lbs.
- 21. Grandmother
- 22. North, South and Central
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Foes
- 31. Social networking platform

- 32. Early term for basketball player
- 33. Another name for sesame plant
- 38. Disallow
- 41. Provide greater detail
- 43. Inaccessible
- 45. Evoke emotions
- 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 49. Celtic punk rockers
- 50. A fencing sword
- 55. Actor Idris
- 56. Affirmative (slang)
- 57. Afflicted in mind or body
- 59. One point north of northeast
- 60. Born of

- 61. Social media hand gesture
- 62. Hong Kong food stall ___ pai dong
- 63. Opposite of beginning
- 64. Email function

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Sign language
- 2. Fashionable
- 3. Borough in Helsinki
- 4. Inability to hear
- 5. More quickly
- 6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
- 7. Shrewdly
- 8. Rooney and Kate are two
- 9. Mediterranean port
- 10. Benedictine monk
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Town in Galilee
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Mice genus
- 24. Brass instrument
- 25. Chest muscle (slang)
- 26. Transmits genetic information from DNA
- 27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
- 28. Woman (French)
- 29. Short route aircraft
- 34. Pitching statistic
- 35. Pointed end of a pen
- 36. Popular sports league
- 37. Body part
- 39. Inoffensive
- 40. Yellowish cotton cloth
- 41. Feline
- 42. Does not tell the truth
- 44. Seduced
- 45. Spiritual leader
- 46. Abba ___, Israeli politician
- 47. Repair
- 48. Olive genus
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. C. European river
- 54. Keep under control
- 58. Father

1	8								3
		3	6	7					8
	5				7				
7		1		2	3				
			1	9		2			
			4	3		9			
	3				8		6		
5		4	9						

SUDOKU

To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10		
11				12			13				14			
15							16				17			
	18				19		20				21			
					22	23				24				
25	26	27	28	29										
30									31					
32										33	34	35	36	37
					38	39	40		41	42				
					43				44					
					45	46								
47	48						49			50	51	52	53	54
55							56				57			58
59							60				61			
62							63					64		

For puzzle solutions, please see
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THE FLOWERS OF MEADOWLARK PARK - PART 1

*Compiled by Joanne Meder,
photos by Joanne Meder and Linda Burger*

This is part one of a three-part series based on when flowering perennial plants seen in Meadowlark Park first bloom (all are pollinators, most native). Here are some early ones with their bloom periods, preferred light conditions, and heights. Consider adding them around your unit (with Condo approval, if required). Once established, they'll return year after year, requiring minimal maintenance.



HELLEBORE
February to April
Part shade
12 to 18 inches tall



AMSONIA
March to May
Part shade
12 inches to 3 feet tall



EASTERN RED COLUMBINE
February to July
Part or full shade
1 to 3 feet tall



CREeping PHLOX
March to June
Sun, part shade, or full shade
4 to 12 inches tall (groundcover)



GOLDEN GROUNDSEL
March to August
Sun, part shade, or full shade
1 to 3 feet tall



BAPTISIA
April to July
Sun
3 to 5 feet tall



LANCE LEAF COREOPSIS
April to June
Sun
Up to 2 feet tall



FRINGED BLEEDING HEART
Spring
(Some varieties Spring thru Fall)
Part or full shade
9 inches to 2 feet tall



GOLDEN ALEXANDER
April to August
Part sun or full shade
2 to 3½ feet tall

PICKLEBALL PARTY

By Fran Boemio



Partygoers having fun together!



There are only laughs and hugs at our parties!

On December 6, about 100 Pickleball loving friends gathered in the Heritage Room for our annual "Spirits and Sparkles" themed holiday party. The food was bountiful, with desserts galore and dancing all night to the sounds of DJ Johnny Angel.

A plethora of cash prizes and gift certificates were raffled off – we had 27 happy winners!

Over 150 "sweet treat" items were donated by our generous Pickleball family for the St. Luke's Food Pantry.



Setup and Social Committee



Community Cares Committee

Thank you to the Social and Community Cares Sub Committees for their support.

Stay tuned for many more events coming up!

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DECEMBER CULINARY CLUB FESTIVITIES

Text and photos by Elizabeth Royston

For our December Holiday Dinner, the Culinary Club traditionally prepares both appetizers and desserts to be enjoyed by all. This year we again nibbled on an assortment of goodies, including Eleonor Usefop's Cream Cheese Brownies. The recipe is on page 35.



We also had fun with a game that I call "Yankee Swap." Wrapped presents are chosen by number, opened by the recipient, and shown to the group. At that point, he or she can either keep the gift, or claim any other previously opened gift. Some desirable presents change owners several times amid a bit of hilarity!

A lovely ending to our year!

HAIKU FOR FEBRUARY

Verse and photo by Sue Shae

HH Spring on stand-by for now
 We await with hope
 Colors come sooner or later



PHOTO CLUB

HOLIDAY PARTY AND MEMBER PHOTO EXHIBIT

Text by Bill Ablondi, photo by Nancy Mathiasen



The Club held its Holiday Party on December 12, with more than 20 members attending, 15 of whom exhibited photos. Members brought a sumptuous array of snacks, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts to munch on while discussing their photos, both exhibited on the wall and in a video presentation of all photos submitted in meetings throughout the year. It was a great way to finish a banner year of growth in the Club of more than 40 members.

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP PARTY

Text and photo by Carole Ellis



Carole Ellis, Stephanie Puckhaber, Marty Cammarata, Kathryn McCulloug, Jean-Pierre Briant, Sandy Wohlberg, Glenna Briant, Jill Cammarata, Susan Pike, Janet Falk, and Michael Camera.

Over the last couple of years, members of the French Conversation Group – which meets twice a month in Lake Lodge for discussion about various topics of interest *en française* – have become good friends. So much so that, in early January, two of our members, Jill and Marty Cammarata, invited the Group to their lovely home to celebrate the New Year plus four January birthdays and the Cammaratas' 60th anniversary. There was delicious food, wonderful conversation, and everyone had a great time being together.

See the Activities/Classes/Clubs section of this *Newsletter* for more information about our Group under the "Foreign Language Groups" heading.



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR EILEEN KOLMAN

Text and photo by Rosetta Benjamin

I met Eileen Kolman just a few months ago at a Monday Morning Discussion Group meeting. She moved here last year: February 2025. Decades ago, Eileen literally ‘left home’ when she left the Lower Hudson Valley to enter college. Despite the miles separating them over the years, she remained close to her family who continued to live in this area. (Her sister lives in Briarcliff and her brother in Ossining. Between them, Eileen has five nieces and nephews and nine next generation greats!)

The best way to describe Eileen is multi-faceted – like a multi-cut diamond. For example, one facet reflects what some might define as a calling. She told me she knew in high school that she wanted to be a nun. With that intent, as soon as she finished high school, she went to, and in 1968 received her B.A. in Mathematics from, Ohio Dominican College. She chose this college because it was founded and run by an order called the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Eileen became a Sister upon graduation and remained a nun for twenty-five years.

What does a nun do? This nun (1) never stops learning. Over the years, Eileen received her Master of Education in Religious Studies degree in 1975 from Boston College, her Ph. D. in 1987 from Loyola University of Chicago, and in the summer, 1996, she attended Harvard University’s Institute for Educational Management. (2) She never stops teaching. Her areas of expertise are Mathematics, Probability, and Statistics, and she has been both a high school teacher and a college professor. (3) She never stops growing. From 1989 to 2005, she served as a highly valued Administrator at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana: her first year as Associate Provost and the next fifteen years as Dean, First Year Studies.)

An unexpected facet is Eileen’s love of sailing. “The wind and sea are forces of nature; when they are calm, sailing is peaceful and relaxing. When they are dangerously rough, sailing is exciting. Sailing simply rejuvenates the soul.” I catch myself smiling. Do I sense pleasure in competition?

Eileen nods. In 1976 she was accepted to participate in Outward-Bound. This program required her to live, day and night, for one month with nine other people aboard what was essentially a two-masted wooden lifeboat, expecting the experience to develop her sailing and survival skills. In addition, for three days within that month, each person was left alone on an island as a final test of self-reliance.

Further, when she was Dean of Students at Albertus Magnus College in Connecticut (1972 to 1980) she became fascinated with sailing 14-foot boats on Long Island Sound. Later, in Columbus, Ohio (2006 to 2024), Eileen belonged to the Alum Creek Sailing Club. As a testament to her continued love of sailing, her skills and achievements sailing her own 23-foot sailboat, the club named her Yachtswoman of the Year 2020.

Needless to say, Eileen’s sailor’s instincts are excellent. Within months of moving here she discovered Heritage Hills had a Yacht Club and – to no one’s surprise – she joined!



*Photo by
Cheryl Milde*

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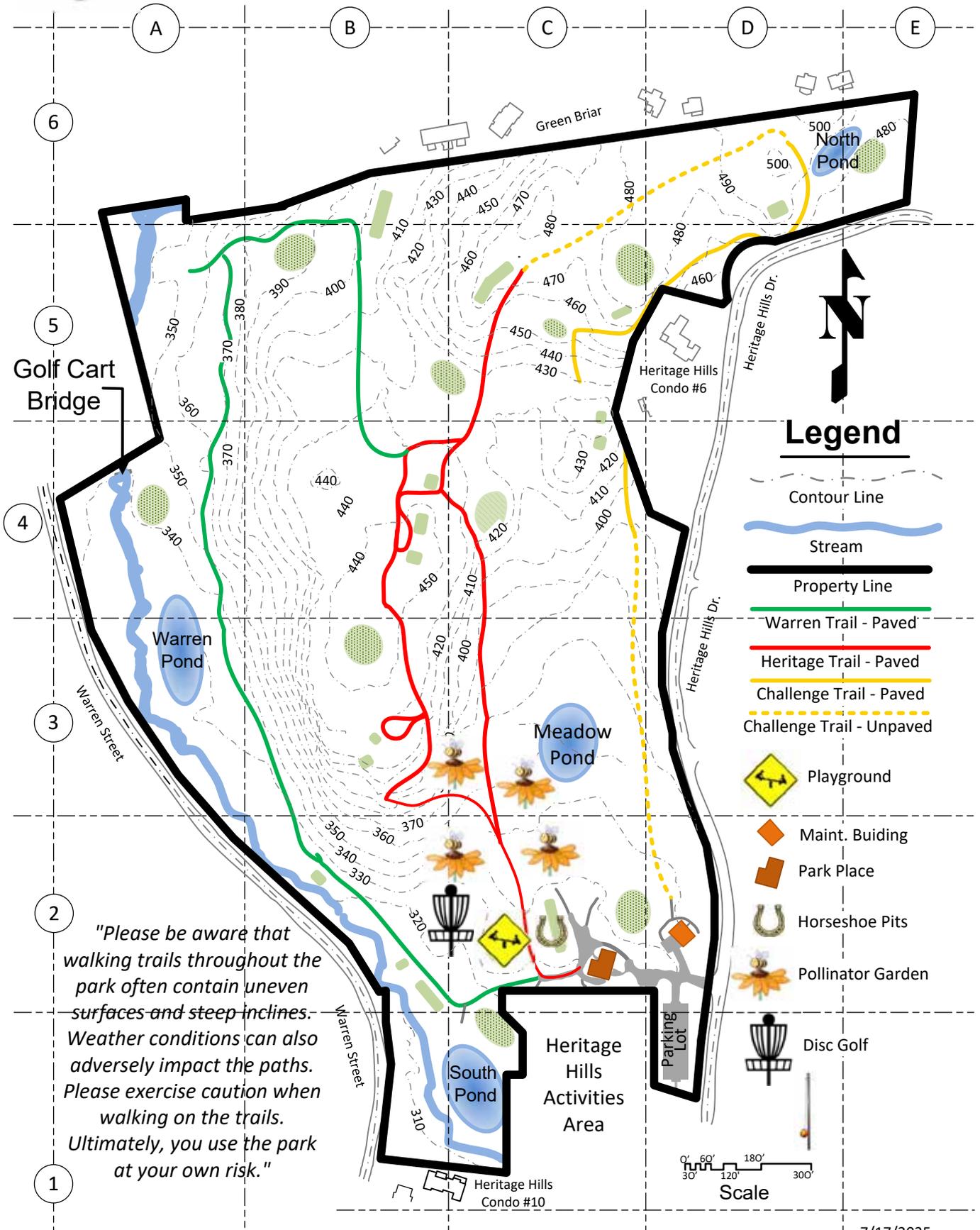
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Meadowlark Park Trail Map

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



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

7/17/2025

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SOMERS STATE ROAD REPAIRS

By Susan Statkowski-Rivalsi

On January 14, Town Supervisor Robert Scorrano posted the following announcement on Facebook;

I'd like to sincerely thank Assemblyman Matt Slater and Senator Pete Harkham for their commitment to working together in securing the necessary funding for Routes 202, 118, and 139. This \$9 million investment will improve safety for all our residents, commuters, and local businesses.

Due to the required procurement process, these projects are scheduled to begin early next year, but help is finally on the way.

The following day, Somers Highway Superintendent Nick DeVito provided the following details:

The State maintained roads will have the top course milled down and then they will be repaved.

Route 139 will be resurfaced from (roughly) #138 Route 139 to the intersection of [Route] 202.

Route 202 will be resurfaced from Lincoln Avenue to Route 118.

I am not sure yet what they plan to do with Route 118. My hope is that it will be resurfaced from Route 6 to Route 35, but the State has not announced their plans yet.

NOW YOU KNOW!

HELP WANTED - SOMERS REPAIR CAFÉ

Submitted by Flo Brodley

- Can you fix a broken clock?
- Do you know how to sharpen kitchen knives?
- Have you been able to adjust a zipper that's out of line?

If you have skills like those, or any others, the Somers Repair Cafe wants you!

The Town of Somers will be opening this free event in the spring and is looking for some good Samaritans to help people save their items instead of throwing them away. This is Somers' answer to a small but important environmental issue that begins with helping your neighbor.

For more information, email Flo Brodley at flo613@comcast.net.

This event is sponsored by the Somers Energy and Environment Committee and Somers Library.

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, go to somersny.com and scroll down to "Senior Services," or call 914-232-0807.

COME CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR AT VAN TASSELL HOUSE

Tuesday, February 17, at noon
Catered by Q's Garden in Somers

Menu: Eggroll, Soup (wonton or egg drop), Entrée (choose one: chicken & broccoli, sesame chicken, roast pork lo mein, beef & broccoli, shrimp with mixed vegetables, shrimp with lobster sauce), rice (white or brown or fried), and dessert. **Order and \$10 CASH payment due by Thursday, February 12.**

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MONDAY

- February 2 Five Below
- February 9 Walmart
- February 16 No Trip (Holiday)
- February 23 Dollar Tree

FRIDAY

- February 6 Stew Leonard's
- February 13 ShopRite
- February 20 Trader Joe's
- February 27 ACME / Home Goods

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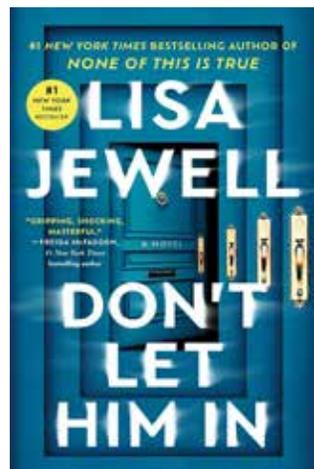
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THE BOOK SHELF

By Dassi Citron

The author Lisa Jewell was not on my radar until I picked up *None of This Is True* at our free lending library in the Activities Center. I passed it on to a friend, and she countered with, "Have you read *Don't Let Him In* yet? It's a must read."

Don't Let Him In is a compact psychological thriller, with brilliant writing by Lisa Jewell.



Jewell begins with, "It's the home of a Gen X man who has made good decisions, made a success of his life, piled his building blocks one on top of the other with precision and care. But also, the home of a man who made one really bad mistake that his wife and family are going to pay for over and over again."

As the plot and subplots unfold, the layers of intrigue come off like parts of an onion. The chapters alternate between the stories of the main characters and the thoughts/intents of the one who is the link between them all. There are also shifts in time, sometimes confusing, which become more understandable toward the end of the book.

The players in this saga include an irresistible man, the woman who falls for him, and a young woman who is determined to uncover hidden truths.

I won't go into what actually happens, since there are so many twists, turns, and surprises in this gripping novel. I leave that for you to uncover. I found myself thinking I had things figured out, but then Lisa Jewell presented yet another deceit. This device kept my interest throughout, until the final moment, when the center of the onion becomes clear.

The title *Don't Let Him In* could also be a metaphor for a warning that many women recognize. Alongside the tension of the premise lie scenarios about men and woman that run deep. In the Acknowledgements section, Jewell includes a paragraph on terrible men in this world. She ends with the cryptic, "And in the meantime be careful who you let in."

If you fancy a suspenseful tale written by a talented British writer, I second my friend's review. "It's a must read."

(*Don't Let Him In* is part of the Heritage Hills Library and Westchester County Library collections. For a list of new books at our Heritage Hills Library, see page 8.)



By Eleanor Usefuf

CREAM CHEESE BROWNIES

Serves 12

Ingredients

Batter

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 bar unsalted butter – melted
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon water
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3/4 cup and 1 tablespoon flour
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips



Cream cheese mixture

- 8 ounces softened cream cheese
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 Tbsp flour
- 1 large eggwhite
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Preparation

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees (rack in center of the oven).
2. Line 8"x8" pan with parchment paper – leave overhang to lift out.
3. Grease parchment paper.
4. Stir together sugar and butter. Let sit 5 minutes to dissolve sugar.
5. Add water, eggs, and vanilla and whisk for 30 seconds.
6. Sprinkle cocoa, flour, and salt over wet ingredients and stir until combined.
7. Separate 1/3 of brownie mixture and stir choc chips into the remaining 2/3 brownie mixture.
8. Place the chocolate chip batter in the pan and spread out.

Cream cheese mixture

9. Beat cream cheese to smooth texture.
10. Combine sugar, flour, egg white, and vanilla and beat to combine. Add to cream cheese and combine to a smooth texture.
11. Place alternate portions of cream cheese and the separated brownie mixture on top of the brownie mixture already in the pan, in a checkerboard pattern.
12. Swirl batter on top, not too deeply – just top layer.
13. Bake at 350 degrees for 32 to 37 minutes until set, with a slight jiggle in the cream cheese areas. Don't over bake. If the swirls start to darken, cover loosely with foil for last 5 minutes.
14. Cool on rack for several hours.

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