



The Highland Lakes Newsette

A publication of Highland Lake Country Club and Community Association at Highland Lakes, New Jersey © 2020
"All the News That Fits We Print"



Volume 2020 | Issue Number 3 | April 11, 2020

From the President's Desk

MICHAEL GELFAND, PRESIDENT

I hope this note finds you, your family, friends and neighbors all in good health. I'm writing to share information with you about Club operations during the current global health crisis.

Most, if not all of our members, are faced by serious challenges—health, social, financial, etc—posed by the coronavirus and corresponding social lockdown mandated by our local, state and federal governments. It's helpful to remember in trying times such as these that we're all in this together. Some members call Highland Lakes home, other members own second homes here, but at the end of the day we're all Highland Lakers, and for every member who is currently here we're all facing similar, obvious difficulties and threats.

Current federal guidance strongly recommends that anyone fleeing New York to avoid getting sick—as any reasonable person would do if they could—should self-quarantine wherever they end up for 14 days, whether that's in Highland Lakes, Canada, or elsewhere. Each of us has a moral obligation and social responsibility to follow this guidance to stay at home, to self-isolate, and to practice self-distancing. We owe it to each other to protect each other, and to remember to be kind toward one another.

We're all struggling to maintain social distancing when we're outside. And some of us are grappling with the challenges of self-quarantining to protect ourselves from others, and/or to protect others from ourselves. Let's stay focused on what matters and control what we can control—avoiding contact with others, staying healthy, and talking with each other via telephone and internet rather than in person, as tempting as it might be. It's not a recommendation—it's a common sense approach we all must take until this crisis has passed.

Necessary changes to Club operations

Springtime is typically an incredibly busy time of year for the Club and its members, but due to this crisis, "business-as-usual" operations have given way to serve the greater good of our community. As you probably already know, all meetings, events, and activities have been shutdown, as have many of our facilities. These actions have been taken with the best interests of our community at mind, to protect each of us from this horrible virus.

Right now, the safety, security and well-being of members and employees continues to be our primary concern, and these concerns take precedence over everything else. Some members may be frustrated that they cannot use all of our facilities as they otherwise might during normal times. The Club does not apologize for the inconvenience, as it should be inherently obvious to all that these unusual and dangerous circumstances we're faced with dictate what we must do right now. Our lives are at

President's Desk continued on page 3

Spring Has Sprung

KAREN VOGEL, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE



Spring arrived officially on March 21 and now's the time to begin getting your garden and tools ready. It's especially nice to get outside in this unprecedented time of social isolation. Give a hearty hello (from the proper distance, of course) to friends and neighbors as they walk by, and enjoy the sun and warmth.

Here are some tips to help you get started. First, take some time to straighten up your shed. Clean off shelves, and sweep out debris and soil remnants. Organize and hang yard equipment like rakes and spades so they're easy to find when needed. Then take a look at your gardening tools. Give them a good cleaning using dish detergent, hot water and a rag or brush. Sharpen blades to improve performance and make tools easier to work with. Then apply oil or WD40 to blades and hinges, and mineral spirits to wood handles.

Next tidy up the yard, flower beds and borders. Throughout the fall and winter, your garden is exposed to the elements and what's left behind from storms, and we had an especially damaging ice storm this year. Remove last year's leaves, branches, and other garden debris. Straighten and repair rock walls and fences.

Once the frost is gone and the soil is workable, you can loosen the soil in empty garden borders by tilling, or turning it about 5cm (or more) with a small hand trowel. This will help you find any hidden pests that may have overwintered in your soil and remove them. You can mix in well-composted mulch but move newer mulch aside. Remove stones, and add in soil amendments like top soil, compost or manure to add nutrients to the soil in



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RORY BYRA

preparation for the growing season. Compost or manure should be added a couple of weeks before planting, so it has time to mix well with your soil and won't burn the roots of any new plants.

Check with local nurseries, friends and neighbors to see which plants (or trees) are best for our area, and for your yard's particular exposure to the sun. There are many plants that are native to our corner of New Jersey and will happily thrive in our climate and soil.

Gardening can be a fun family experience and it's a great opportunity to get the kids and grandkids working with you.

Help Wanted Athletics Director

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Recruitment is underway for the position of Athletics Director for the 2020 summer season. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic leader of the Club's athletics programs, and be highly organized in planning and conducting the summer athletics activities. The Director must have a generalized knowledge of competitive sports, rules and equipment requirements, and be able to solicit advice from various participants regarding rules, procedures and equipment needs. The ability to successfully interact with children and their parents, adult and youth volunteers, and Club officials and staff is essential.

- Duties include but are not limited to the following:
- Plans and implements program and activity schedules.
 - Develops and publishes program highlights, schedules, rules, rosters, etc. for the Highland Lakes Newsette on a weekly basis.
 - Arranges for the inspection of Club athletic facilities during late April with the Maintenance Superintendent; issues work order requests to rectify any issues identified during the walk-through.
 - Develops activity sign-up books for placement at the Activity Center; identifies volunteers from the sign-ups; communicates with parents and children as to scheduling.
 - Ensures that all participants are members in good standing of Highland Lakes by working with the Club Office, and that all participants have submitted satisfactorily-completed Parent Permission Forms prior to participation.
 - Conducts, where appropriate, drafts of players to ensure the proportionate assignment of skilled players to various teams; prevents the manipulation of rosters for competitive advantage.
 - Conducts inventory of uniforms and equipment in late April; prepares order for approval by the General Manager; continually reviews uniform and equipment needs based on sign-ups and enrollments; ensures sufficient stock for late enrollments.
 - Maintains the Athletics Hotline, leaving up-to-date messages on scheduling, schedule changes, and rain-outs.
 - Ensures appropriate team discipline; instructs coaches and volunteers on procedures to clear litter from areas at the conclusion of activities.

Throughout the summer, the Athletics Director can be expected to follow a 35-40 hour weekly work schedule involving daytime, evening and weekend hours, including activities and events in the evening.

Resumes, references and a letter of interest should be immediately submitted to Jack McLaughlin, General Manager, Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association, PO Box 578, Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422, or by email to hlcc@warwick.net. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings are temporarily postponed due to the current COVID-19 social distancing situation.

Help Wanted – Clubhouse Director

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Recruitment is underway for the position of Clubhouse Director for the 2020 summer season. The ideal candidate works well with parents and children, is energetic and creative, and preferably has demonstrated experience in developing and supervising recreational programs.

Duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Hiring, training, scheduling and supervising Clubhouse recreation and Beach Hut staff;
- Gathering continual input from parents and children leading to enhanced programs and activities during the summer;
- Planning, organizing and conducting Clubhouse activities for all ages, including arts and crafts, story-time, dances, movies, contests and field trips;
- Recruiting volunteers to conduct and assist in Clubhouse activities;

- Serves as coordinator for Family Day events and activities;
- Purchasing vending supplies for sale and maintaining inventory at the Activities Center and Beach Hut;
- Publicizing Clubhouse activities and writing articles about upcoming events in the Newsette on the Club's Facebook page.

Throughout the summer, the Clubhouse Director can be expected to follow a 35-40 hour weekly work schedule involving daytime, evening and weekend hours, including activities and events in the evening.

Resumes, references and a letter of interest should be immediately submitted to Jack McLaughlin, General Manager, Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association, PO Box 578, Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422, or by email to hlcc@warwick.net. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

2020 Badges and Permits

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

To Be Mailed

The April 13, 2020, date for pickup of badges and permits has been cancelled. Until further notice, once you have paid your dues and assessments in full for 2020, your badges, garbage permit, and boating and parking permits will be mailed to your address on file with the Club. Please expect delivery on or after May 1, 2020.

If you want the badge and permit package mailed to a different address, or if you need to add/delete a vehicle, send the change of address and/or updated vehicle information by fax to 974-764-7401 or email to hlcc@warwick.net. Don't forget to include a copy of the vehicle's registration.



2020 BADGES AND PERMITS

Voting Board Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020			
Officer	Name	Telephone	E-Mail
President	Michael Gelfand	973-764-8758	president@hlcc.org
First Vice President	Judith Norton	973-764-2495	firstvp@hlcc.org
Second Vice President	Raymond Zimmerman	973-766-3359	secondvp@hlcc.org
Treasurer	Michael Gillooley	973-764-4366	hltreasurer@hlcc.org
Secretary	Climeen Wikoff	973-764-5604	secretary@hlcc.org
Section	Trustee	Telephone	E-Mail
1	Louis Iannucci	973-764-7042	trustee1@hlcc.org
2	William Beardsley	973-764-7730	trustee2@hlcc.org
3	Patricia Thompson	973-271-9566	thompsonpatty208@gmail.com
4	Lisa Entwistle	201-281-6262	trustee4@hlcc.org
5	James Kensek	973-764-6835	hlcc@warwick.net
6	Melissa Hardin	973-764-1433	trustee6@hlcc.org
7	Lee Eisenberg	973-764-4366	trustee7@hlcc.org
8	Dominick Beninati	917-566-3136	trustee8@hlcc.org
9	Thomas Castiglione	973-764-4366	trustee9@comcast.net
10	Chris Kaas	-----	section10hlcc@gmail.com
11	David Cartier	973-534-2039	trustee11@hlcc.org
12	Len Bogdon	973-764-7136	trustee12@hlcc.org

Office Hours

The Club Office is closed until further notice. If you have any questions, please contact us at 973-764-4366 or email the Club Office. Staff is working remotely and telephone messages are being monitored between the hours of 9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. The office is closed on Saturday. You may also contact the Club Office by email to hlcc@warwick.net.



President's Desk from page 1

stake, and that's where the Club's focus needs to be until that threat has passed.

What follows is a general overview of what the Club has done to date to support critical operations and safeguard our community:

- The Clubhouse is closed for use until further notice to promote social distancing. All Club meetings, activities, and events have been suspended until federal, state and local health authorities signal that future gatherings are essentially risk-free.
- Access to the Club office is prohibited, though office staff is answering the phones while others are working remotely.
- The Club is actively identifying members who may lack the support of family and friends during this crisis – details will follow how you can help.
- Playgrounds and courts throughout our community have been closed to guard against the spread of coronavirus, and to promote social distancing.
- Security staff continues to operate. If you have an emergency, please contact the Vernon Police Department at 9-1-1. If you need other assistance (food, medicines, etc.), you may also call the Vernon Police Department at 973-

764-6155.

- The Club's maintenance activity continues, but is limited to seasonal preparations.

Recognizing the widespread disruption experienced by our members in this crisis, an examination was undertaken as to what steps are possible, now, to allay any financial concerns members may have regarding their obligations to the Club.

The following is a summary of the changes approved by the Voting Board on March 23, 2020:

- monthly late payment charges for those who currently are not eligible for the Late Payment Charge Grace Period are suspended for the three months April, May, June.
- for those currently qualified for the Grace Period, monthly late payment charges for the period March – May are already suspended. These members will receive an additional month to pay their balance – through June 30.
- members who carried a balance into this calendar year (owe more than 2020 charges) are excluded from the suspension.
- the suspension of late charges for three months is extended to lot owners.
- monthly late payment charges on all balances resume July 1.
- seniors and the permanently disabled receive an

additional two months to apply for the discount, and an additional month before the discount is forfeited.

More details are available on the Club's website – <https://hlcc.org/2020/03/voting-board-suspends-monthly-late-payment-charges-extends-filing-deadline-for-senior-citizen-permanently-disabled-discount/>.

The Voting Board will continue to meet its obligations as the Club remains in limited operation during this constantly evolving situation. You can continue to look to the Club's website and the Newsette for news and updates, and I will try to reach out as often as I can to let you know any material changes. Let's all work together during this great time of need, and try to take care of one another.

Considering everyone's well-being while we're thinking about our own makes the physical and emotional hardships of the moment easier to endure. These struggles, and our love of Highland Lakes, are what bind our fates together now—let's get through this as a community, remaining as kind and understanding as we possibly can be toward one another. Some day hopefully not too far off in the future we'll gather together to remember how awful this experience was, and to celebrate how fortunate we are to have made it through... together.

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Help Wanted – Assistant to the Water Safety Director

KAITLYN NIX, WATER SAFETY DIRECTOR

Highland Lakes is in search of an Assistant to the Water Safety Director. Interested candidates should contact Kaitlyn Nix ASAP. Candidates must be willing to work from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Weekends a must. Guarding certifications not necessary but would be a plus. Must be willing to be trained in First Aid and CPR. Good driving record and car are a must. Contact Kaitlyn Nix, Water Safety Director at kaitlyn.j.nix@gmail.com

Photos Wanted

ROE HALL, ADMIN. ASST./EVENTS COORDINATOR

Build our Nixplay

Highland Lakers--Do you have some great pictures from any of our recent events or photos of our beautiful Highland Lakes? Submit your pictures to hlcc@warwick.net. Be sure to include your name so we can give you proper photo credit. Thank you.

Tom Watson

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Help Wanted – Lifeguards, Lifeguard Instructors and Water Safety Instructors

KAITLYN NIX, WATER SAFETY DIRECTOR

The Club is anticipating openings in our Water Safety department this summer. Consider applying to our staff for a lifeguard position. Below is a list of requirements and expectations. Our pre season begins Memorial Day weekend and consists of weekends in June. Starting in the last week of June, the regular season continues daily until Labor Day. You should expect to work both during the week and on weekends.

You must be Lifeguard/CPR/First Aid certified - Waterfront is also necessary, but you can be certified for \$35 by HLCC if you don't have it.

The Highland Lakes Newsette

Highland Lakes Country Club
and Community Association

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Roe Hall, Administrative Assistant

Judy Norton, Editor

Special Thanks to the

Communications Committee and
all of our contributors

PO Box 578 - 2240 Lakeside Drive West

Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422

973-764-4366 / Email: hlcc@warwick.net

Maintaining Operations During COVID-19 Outbreak

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Access to the Club Office and Clubhouse was eliminated on March 17, 2020. We encourage members to telephone the office – 973-764-4366 – or email to hlcc@warwick.net. We will do our best to get back to you.

Highland Lakes has continuity arrangements in place to ensure the safe and orderly conduct of our essential operations. We have a number of precautionary preventive measures in place for the protection of our members and staff. And it is clear that each and every one of us has responsibilities during this outbreak of the coronavirus.

The Club’s administrative challenge is to maintain operations—as best it can—by protecting its limited staff and members through the exercise of the common-sense guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and the New Jersey Department of Health.

You can contact the Club Office directly by telephone at 973-764-4366 or by email to hlcc@warwick.net. If you have questions or concerns about payments, call/email the office. You should also consider using online banking to avoid making any trips.

Limiting interactions between members and office staff is one example of the “social distancing” that all experts implore each of us to practice every day. According to The

Atlantic, social distancing is... “a term that epidemiologists are using to refer to a conscious effort to reduce close contact between people and hopefully stymie community transmission of the virus.”

Other changes:

- All Club events, meetings, and activities are canceled for the month of April. Additional cancelations in May are likely.
- Effective immediately, the Club office will be closed on Saturdays.
- The April 13, 2020, date for pickup of badges and permits has been postponed—more details will follow when available.
- The Club is not entering into new contracts for Family Event rentals, though please feel free to call to “hold” the date.

The Club continues to evaluate COVID-19 guidance and its scheduled meetings, events, and activities and additional postponements are likely. We will continue to closely monitor news and updates from relevant health organizations and government regulators, and will share all relevant information as necessary. Thank you for your understanding.

Club Courts and Playgrounds Closed Indefinitely

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

The Club is acutely aware that social distancing must be practiced rigorously during this public health emergency. We also acknowledge that members and their families are looking to the Club’s parks, play areas, beaches, etc. as places to spend time outdoors to relax and play while practicing self-isolation at home and social distancing in public.

We received confirmation from the State of New Jersey’s COVID experts that there are no guidelines from the New Jersey Department of Health or the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention whether playground equipment should be closed or remain in operation. As a result, we have determined that for everyone’s safety, all Club courts and playgrounds ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

While the Club’s beaches and parks remain open at this time for non-group, passive recreation, we urge all members to respect the social distancing guidelines and stay at least six feet away from those who are not members of your immediate family.

Tennis Courts Remain Closed

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

USTA Statement

Keeping the tennis, handball, and utility courts locked, disabling the basketball courts, and cordoning off playgrounds was part of the Club’s response to the dangers of community transmission of the coronavirus. While the necessity of these actions was widely understood and supported, it was disappointing to receive repeated calls and emails requesting that the tennis court nets be installed and the courts unlocked. The requests were, of course, rejected.

The following is the statement issued on April 3, 2020, from the United States Tennis Association regarding tennis during this public health emergency:

USTA Statement on Safety of Playing Tennis during the COVID-19 Virus Pandemic:

The COVID-19 pandemic is creating challenges for everyone across the globe. American tennis players are asking for guidance regarding the safety of playing tennis, especially when social distancing and space sharing issues are now paramount.

Based on the recommendations of the USTA COVID-19 Advisory Group, the USTA believes that it is in the best interest of society to take a collective pause from playing the sport we love.

Although there are no specific studies on tennis and COVID-19, medical advisors believe there is the possibility that the virus responsible for COVID-19 could be transmitted through common sharing and handling of tennis balls, gate handles, benches, net posts and even court surfaces.

As a result of this, the USTA asks that as tennis players we need to be patient in our return to the courts and consider how our decisions will not only affect ourselves, but how our decisions can impact our broader communities. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to stay active and healthy with at-home exercise and creative “tennis-at-home” variations.

We look forward to our return to tennis in a safe manner and will provide updates as new information becomes available. By practicing all the recommended guidelines presently put forth by our medical experts, that return will happen in the soonest possible timeframe.

We could not agree more with USTA’s statement. The Club’s courts and playgrounds must remain off-limits during this dangerous public health emergency, and will reopen only when Governor Murphy’s Executive Orders on gatherings and social distancing are lifted, and firm guidance about the safety of reopening our facilities is received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.

Our best wishes to you during these extraordinary and challenging times,



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Voting Board Suspends Monthly Late Payment Charges / Extends Filing Deadline for Senior Citizen/Permanently Disabled Discount

MIKE GILLOOLEY, TREASURER

Recognizing the widespread disruption experienced by our members in this crisis, an examination was undertaken as to what steps are possible, now, to allay any financial concerns members may have regarding their obligations to the Club.

The following is a summary of the changes approved by the Voting Board on March 23, 2020:

1. Monthly late payment charges for those who currently are not eligible for the Late Payment Charge Grace Period are suspended for the three months April, May, June.
2. For those currently qualified for the Grace Period, monthly late payment charges for the period March – May are already suspended. These members will receive an additional month to pay their balance – through June 30.
3. Members who carried a balance into this calendar year (owe more than 2020 charges) are excluded from the suspension.
4. The suspension of late charges for three months is extended to lot owners.
5. Monthly late payment charges on all balances resume July 1.
6. Seniors and the permanently disabled receive an additional two months to apply for the discount, and an additional month before the discount is forfeited.

LATE PAYMENT CHARGE GRACE PERIOD – CABIN AND LOT OWNERS

1. Members Who Previously QUALIFIED for the Late Payment Charge Grace Period: the date by which all balances must be paid has been changed from May 31, 2020, to June 30, 2020. Late Payment Charges will be assessed on all balances beginning July 1, 2020.
2. Members Who Previously DID NOT QUALIFY for the Late Payment Charge Grace Period: For Members whose account balance contains ONLY the 2020 Cabin Dues and Assessments, regardless of whether any payments were made, the assessment of Late Payment Charges is suspended for the months of April, May, and June. Please note that Late Payment Charges were assessed in early

March on accounts which did not qualify for the Late Payment Charge Grace Period. All balances must be paid by June 30, 2020. Late Payment Charges will be assessed on all balances beginning July 1, 2020.

3. For Owners of Vacant Lots: For Members whose account balance contains ONLY the 2020 Lot Dues and Assessments, regardless of whether any payments were made, the assessment of Late Payment Charges is suspended for the months of April, May, and June. Please note that Late Payment Charges were assessed in early March on account balances. All balances must be paid by June 30, 2020. Late Payment Charges will be assessed on all balances beginning July 1, 2020.

SENIOR CITIZEN AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

The date by which applications for the discount has been changed from May 31, 2020, to July 31, 2020. The date by which the discount would be forfeited if any part of the 2020 Dues and Assessments were unpaid has been changed from July 31, 2020, to August 30, 2020.

The Voting Board is committed to work through this challenging time with everyone's health and well-being our top priority.

Take Care – Be Safe – Practice Self-Distancing





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Be Sure You Are Counted

SUE ROSS, CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

2020 Census

Every 10 years, our constitution requires the federal government to perform a census to count all persons living in the US - citizens and non-citizens alike. By now, you should have received your census form in the mail. It has a code on it that you can use to complete your census online at <https://2020census.gov/>. If you prefer, you can also complete it by phone, or fill out the paper form and return it by mail. Whichever way you choose, you will be doing something important for our country, state and county.

Your efforts will ensure that you and your household are counted. The importance of that simple act can't be overstated. When we don't count each and every person, we lose representation in Congress for the next ten years. This impacts the federal funds allocated in New Jersey for vital programs and services created to address homelessness, provide utility assistance, SNAP benefits, healthcare and more.

Data security is the highest priority for the Census Bureau, and extensive protections are in place. The 2020 US Census will NEVER ask for your social security information or other personal information like your bank account numbers or political information. Under the law, census data can only be used for statistical purposes and is confidential.

You can expect to be asked about the following:

- How many people are living or staying at your home on April 1, 2020
- Whether your home is owned or rented
- The age, race, sex of each person in the household
- Whether a person in the household is of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin
- Relationships of each person in the household to one central person (usually the person completing the form for the household)
- Please do your part. Answering the questions takes about 10 minutes to complete.

Please, Clean Up After Your Dog

Be nice to your neighbors – please clean up dog messes after walking your dog. Township ordinances require that you control your dog – this includes properly disposing of dog messes on your property, your neighbor's property or club property. Thank you.



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COVID19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

Share Facts About COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

FACT 1

Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

People of Asian descent, including Chinese Americans, are not more likely to get COVID-19 than any other American. Help stop fear by letting people know that being of Asian descent does not increase the chance of getting or spreading COVID-19.

FACT 2

The risk of getting COVID-19 in the U.S. is currently low.

Some people who live in or have recently traveled to places where many people have gotten sick with COVID-19 may be monitored by health officials to protect their health and the health of other people in the community.

FACT 3

Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.

FACT 4

You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Seek medical advice if you

• Develop symptoms

AND

• Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

FACT 5

There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Dial 211 for Help with Basic Needs

SUE ROSS, CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

If you are one of the 3.3 million workers who had to file an unemployment claim last week due to the pandemic, you may be wondering how you are going to make ends meet until we get through this. NJ 211, an information and referral service that connects people in need with services that can help, may have some answers for you. The service is free, confidential, multi-lingual and always open. There are three ways to connect with a live specialist who knows community resources: by phone (simply dial 211); by text (text your zip code to 898-211) or through an online chat system at www.nj211.org.

The call center is exceptionally busy these days, but when you finally do make the connection you will be speaking, texting or chatting with someone who has access to a resource database of over 10,000 programs and services, some of which are right here in Sussex County. All relate to some sort of health or human service need. So, if the world crisis has turned YOUR world upside down and you are now wondering how you are going to feed your family; pay the utility bill; find affordable healthcare; or address a similar need, contact 211. If you are struggling with a substance use disorder; are in need of mental health services; or are looking for a support group that you can connect with virtually, 211 may have some resources for you.



NJ 211 opened its phone lines in 2005 and has been serving New Jerseyans ever since. The organization is written into the state's emergency response plan which means that when Coronavirus COVID-19 started wreaking havoc in our state, 211 was activated to assist in communicating all that the state is doing to assist people in need. If you have a question about any of the recent government directives or are wondering about things like social security payments, tax filing extensions, how to report a violation of the Executive Order 107, testing site locations, or other matters related to the pandemic, contact 211 and see if they can point you in the right direction. Or, go to www.nj211.org to learn more. Click on the bright yellow banner at the top of the page to find information about resources that have been created to help you, your family and your business weather this storm. Go to the "Get Help With" tab at the top of the page to learn more about everyday systems that exist in our state to help people get by when times get tough.

Senior Club News

JOYCE HEALY, PRESIDENT, SENIOR CLUB

Hello, everyone. Here's hoping all of our Senior Club members are well and anticipating a load of lovely spring weather. Thankfully, we had a mild winter. No matter how the weather pans out here on top of the mountain, you just can't please everyone.

I found these words of encouragement from a beautiful individual of a very lowly beginning: Do It Anyway

People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centered.

FORGIVE them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

BE KIND anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends, and some genuine enemies.

SUCCEED anyway.

If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you.

BE HONEST and SINCERE anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

CREATE anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

BE HAPPY anyway.

Give the best you have and it will never be enough.

GIVE YOUR BEST anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

Mother Teresa

I hope, through this uplifting reflection, you'll find reasons to continue to be kind, forgiving, happy, honest and sincere despite what others do or say to hold you back. Dear Senior Club, as we patiently and calmly await to resume normal activities, you may call me if you need any assistance. You have good friends who are there for you. Love ya, Joyce H. 845-544-3749.



Ecology Committee News

BARBARA JAGGI, CHAIRPERSON, ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

Ecology Cleanup Day

Due to the current restrictions in place due to COVID-19 the April 25 Roadside Cleanup sponsored by the Ecology Committee will be rescheduled once normal activity can be resumed.

As a community it should be the responsibility of ALL residents to do some type of roadside cleanup. It is not too much to ask that Club members join together in this regard. Pick up any trash along the road in the vicinity of your property NO MATTER HOW IT GOT THERE!!!

The photo below is of Necole and Leanna Kalucki. Whenever Leanna and her mom take a walk they bring a refuse bag and pick up trash along the way. When I asked Leanna why she does this she responded “I want to save the world.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF BARBARA JAGGI.

Now some interesting facts about bald eagles. Just a little bit about one of our favorite residents here at the lake: Bald eagles look awesome which is why they're a good national symbol - they seem so fearsome and regal. Bald eagles don't sound impressive. They sound like a small bird you'd find in your yard or perhaps like a small turkey. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology refers to it as a high weak-sounding whinny. What does sound impressive is the cry of red-tailed hawk. Their cries are piercing, and that's almost always what movies use in place of a real bald eagle call.

Female bald eagles are about 25 to 33 percent bigger than the males, sitting about three inches taller and having a five-inch broader wingspan - that puts the average female about three feet tall with a 7.5 foot wingspan. For this reason most of the images you see of bald eagles are of females. This is true of most birds of prey, though ornithologists aren't quite sure why. The females tend to protect the nest and are often the more dominant of the mating pair, so it may be that larger mothers are more beneficial. Some ornithologists have also theorized that having a size difference allows each bird in the pair to hunt slightly different animals - the males can get smaller more agile prey while the females snatch up larger animals - expanding their available food source.

They also mooch off other birds. Sure, they might look like terrifying birds of prey, but bald eagles tend to skip the actual work of hunting and instead steal from other animals. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology notes that bald eagles will harass an osprey with prey in its talons until it drops the food, allowing the eagle to literally swoop in and snatch the fish. They'll even try to rip the prey straight out of the osprey's claws, relying on their much larger body size to intimidate and overpower the smaller osprey. Sometimes they'll nab prey from mammals too.

This is, incidentally, why Benjamin Franklyn didn't think



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROB HALEY

America's symbol should be an eagle. It's a popular myth that he wanted a turkey instead. The Smithsonian says he just suggested that the bird on the proposed American seal looked like it was a turkey and that turkeys were a more respectable bird. But, he did write that the bald eagle "is a bird of bad moral character." Furthermore, he wrote, "He does not get his living honestly." That being said, bald eagles have been known to take down deer fawns, seal pups, and full-grown beavers. Sometimes they'll even go after turtles. Most of these, you'll notice, are not particularly dangerous creatures - overall, bald eagles prefer the lazy route.



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Remembering Jeanne Jameson

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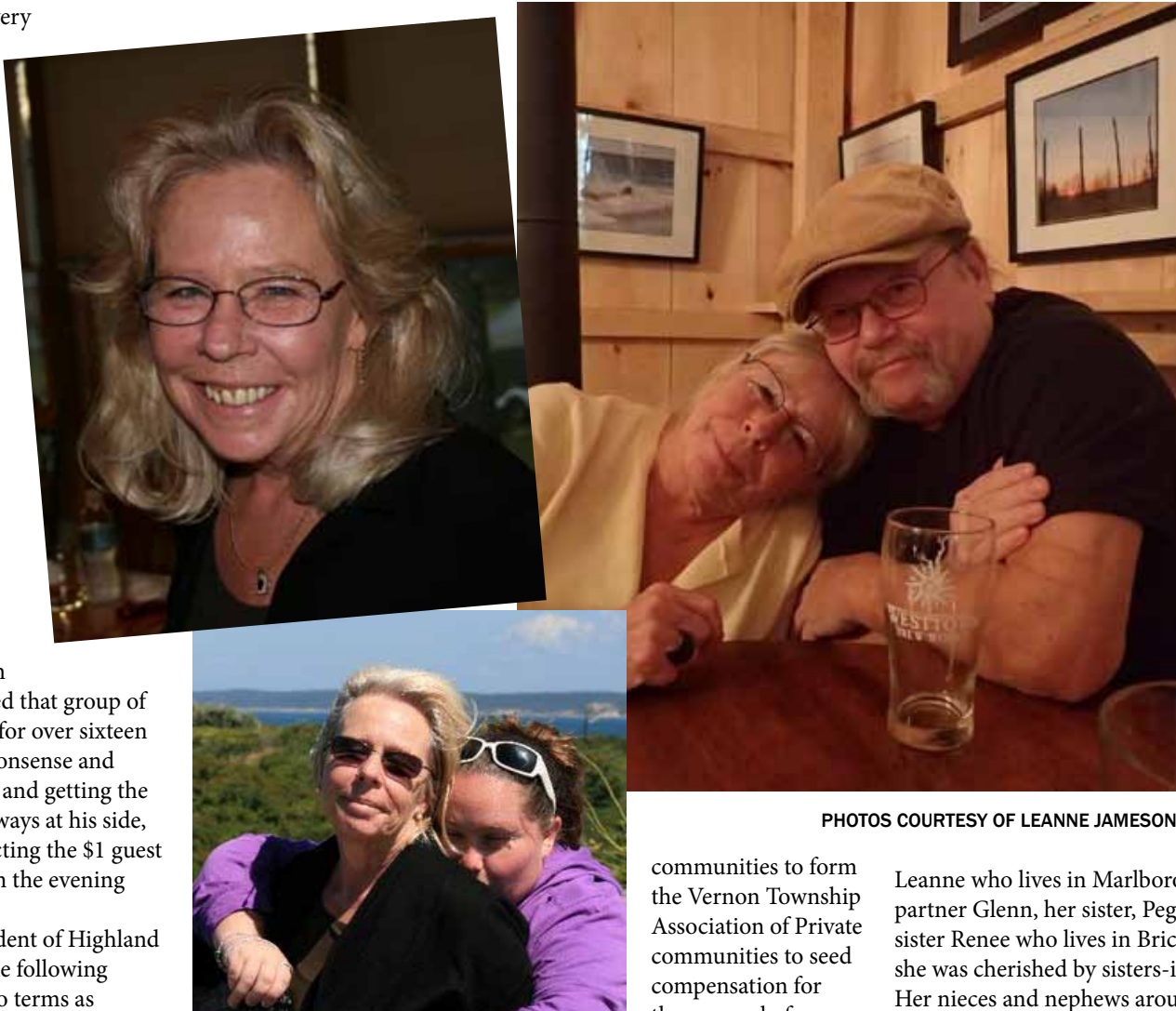
In March Highland Lakes lost a very special person - Jeanne Jameson, who dedicated more than twenty years as a volunteer in Highland Lakes from 1989 through 2013. Jeanne served as Club Secretary for three years, Treasurer for six years, Second Vice President for six years, First Vice President for three years and finally, President for six years.

Jeanne and husband Mike moved to Highland Lakes from Rutherford in 1983 after falling in love with this community and finding their house with the semi-circular driveway so that they didn't need to jockey cars between them. Jeanne and Mike knew Highland Lakes was where they were meant to be, and established their roots with their daughter Leanne. Mike was a founding member of the Club's Open Mic named the Lakeside Café, and led that group of temperamental musician volunteers for over sixteen years, generally by avoiding all the nonsense and just doing all that needed to be done and getting the others to do the same. Jeanne was always at his side, helping set-up for the evening, collecting the \$1 guest fee, preparing and serving food when the evening was over, and cleaning up.

Jeanne served two terms as President of Highland Lakes and led the Voting Board in the following accomplishments during Jeanne's two terms as President:

- Supported the major upgrade of the aeration systems in the Main Lake and Upper East lake (Lake 4).
- Oversaw upgrades to playground equipment bringing two parks into full compliance with safety standards.
- Worked with the Voting Board, Club staff, and Vernon leaders in the recovery from an unprecedented ice storm.
- Led HLCC in joining with other private

- communities to form the Vernon Township Association of Private communities to seed compensation for the removal of snow and ice as required by New Jersey law; served as a spokesperson for the group before meetings of the Township Council.
- Negotiated with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company for significant compensation to the Club in exchange for access on our private roadways.
- Guided the Road Committee in its research about speed humps the installation of speed humps in pilot areas.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LEANNE JAMESON

- Initiated discussions for the retention of an engineering firm for the design of paving and storm water improvements in the Clubhouse parking lot.
- Completed the rehabilitation of the East Highland (Indian Lake) dam.
- Supported the efforts of the Goodwill Fund committee which initiated the Path to Goodwill.

Jeanne was small in physical stature, but big in heart and feisty. Over these past few years as her health deteriorated Jeanne remained strong, positive and enthusiastic about life. She always wanted to know what was “happening in Highland Lakes” and could not have been more enthusiastic with the At the Lake magazine that she loved.

Jeanne was predeceased by her husband Mike and is survived by her daughter

Leanne who lives in Marlboro, MA with her long time partner Glenn, her sister, Peggy who lives in Arizona and her sister Renee who lives in Brick Township, NJ. Additionally, she was cherished by sisters-in-law who live in New Jersey. Her nieces and nephews around the country loved her and loved to FaceTime with her whenever they could.

When we volunteer in a community like ours, we donate a tremendous amount of our personal time and energy and ultimately our hearts belong here and our sprit is infused into this community. We are very fortunate to have had Jeanne's support and enthusiasm for so many years. Jeanne was a personal friend, my mentor and one of the bravest people I've ever known. I will miss her.

Communications Committee Update

SUE ROSS, CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Cautions about the importance of social distancing were just starting to be voiced in earnest in the second week of March. In response to this, the Communications Committee used a virtual platform to meet on March 14 and share ideas and plans about upcoming articles and posts. As well as it went, I am hoping the same won't be necessary when we meet in May.

Our discussions centered around the editorial

schedule for the Newsette, social media and web posts. Karen Vogel wrote the feature article for this month's Newsette focusing on how to prepare your garden for the upcoming growing season. Look for an article by me in the May Newsette about invasive plants, followed by a feature on fishing written by Nicole March in the later part of May.

We will be doing our best as a committee to post to

the website and social media platforms (we just opened an Instagram account) in the hope that it helps to keep us connected despite the social distancing mandate. Wishing everyone in our community peace and good health during these trying times. We are fortunate to live in a place where it is so easy to step outside and take a breath of fresh air.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN MCNALLY

Smiles and Goodwill During This Pandemic

JOHN MCNALLY

Highland Lakes resident, Cathy Spoerl, brought some goodwill and cheer to the nurses at Morristown Medical Center. Her neighbor is a nurse who works in the coronavirus unit at Morristown and Cathy decided she was going to cater a dinner for the entire wing of nurses and doctors. She never asked anybody to chip in but allowed volunteers to chip in. These are the grateful photos of the staff that night. She enrolled a gentleman who made the food after hours from a famous food spot in that area that they like. He wrapped everything special and delivered it himself. This is typical of her every day behavior as she also volunteers at a local food pantry.



50th Anniversary Cookbooks On Sale

JOYCE HEALY, PRESIDENT, SENIOR CLUB

Step back in time a bit and read some of the wonderful recipes submitted 40 + years ago. Your HL Senior Club gathered these recipes and added some delicious new ones to create the 50th Anniversary HL Cookbook.

\$10.00 per copy is all it costs to get a great gift for yourself or for others in your life. Some of the recipes came from the grand ladies of the HL Women's Auxiliary. Maybe your mom, grannie, auntie or a special neighbor submitted a recipe, and you haven't had it since you were a child. Here's your chance to get your hands on those wonderful taste treats. Call Joyce - 845-544-3749 and pick up 1 or more copies for gift-giving.



Highland Lakes Volunteer Fire Dept. Address Marker Campaign

Reflective Address Markers Available

In an effort to have members' homes clearly marked, the HL Volunteer Fire Dept. is continuing its endeavor to sell reflective address markers. Anyone interested in purchasing one and to contribute to the Fire Department's scholarship fund, use the order on the left or pick one up at the Club office.

HIGHLAND LAKES VOL. FIRE DEPT.

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKER ORDER FORM

Please complete the following information:

Name	_____
Address	_____
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The first few days of April have provided us with some beautiful sunsets and scenery



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KERRY TOBIN, LIZ LAMBRINIDES AND ROE HALL



SUE ROSS, CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The pathway of gray pavers replaced a macadam

Do you have something to say? Consider adding your message to the path. You can reserve your paver by completing the form in this Newsette and sending it in by mail to the Club Office. Each inscription can hold up to three lines with thirteen characters per line (including spaces.) All proceeds will go to benefit the Goodwill Fund.

