



The Highland Lakes Newsette

A publication of Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association at Highland Lakes, New Jersey © 2023
"All the News That Fits We Print"



Volume 2023 | Issue Number 16 | October 7, 2023

A Heartfelt Thank You

KATHI TAYLOR

Reading the Labor Day Newsette can always bring a bit of sadness to Highland Lakers as we reflect on how quickly the summer season has flown by. But reading it this year made me realize how unique Highland Lakes truly is. Where else can you live where you can honestly say that for so many families every generation produces active club members? Whether it is through volunteering or becoming a staff member, Highland Lakes families continue to be involved in all facets of the Club from generation to generation. In my forty-six years as a member, I have easily seen three or four generations of families actively involved.

When I discovered Highland Lakes all those years ago, I was immediately encouraged by my neighbors to "get involved." I have to admit that at that time I was in my 20's and I really didn't see the need. But they continued to remind me that my new home was as wonderful as it was because of the many volunteers that made everything work. The Eckharts, the Hacketts, the Hickeys and Inge Korte were long-time members who saw the importance of encouraging the next generation to step up and help out. Being an active member has been rewarding in so many ways, and I try to continue the legacy of my original neighbors by encouraging others to get involved.

I am sure that many of you can look at your time as members and reflect on how each generation in your family has contributed in some way. As I looked at the Labor

Day Newsette, I was touched by how many young adult members have chosen to remain in Highland Lakes, maybe even starting their families here, and become vital staff for the Club. I have watched many of them grow up as children and now they are adults following in their family's footsteps of service to our community.

Hoping that I don't leave someone out, I would like to thank the following staff members who have spent their youth here and are so important to all of us: Lauren La Rocca – Clubhouse Director, Pete Jablonski – Athletics Director, Patrick Eckhart – Recreation Manager, Mike Buchney – Swim Team Coach, Sherif Fahmy – Swim Team Parent Board President, Kaitlyn Nagy (Nix) - Water Safety Director, and Patrick Thompson – Security. I look at these young adults, and I see people whose parents and grandparents have been or are still serving Highland Lakes.

It can be bittersweet to think about the passage of time, but it is so heartwarming to realize that the chain of service is unbroken. We can often take for granted what we have here on a daily basis, but the next time you bring your children to the Clubhouse for a fantastic activity, or the swim lanes for their practice or a meet, or the beach for swim lessons, or the fields or courts for athletics, or the next time you need security please remember to thank those who are involved. Staff, volunteers, lifeguards and members are all a vital part of what makes Highland Lakes special.

Upcoming Events

October 6 - Lantern Walk
October 7 - Fall Cleanup
October 7 - An Evening with Spirits
October 28 - Trunk or Treat
October 28 - Adult Halloween Party
October 29 - Witches Paddle
October 30 - Pumpkin Carving



Voting Board Roster

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024

Officer	Name	E-Mail
President	Ray Zimmerman	president@hlcc.org
First Vice President	Lisa Entwistle	firstvp@hlcc.org
Second Vice President	Patty Thompson	secondvp@hlcc.org
Treasurer	Lou Iannucci	hltreasurer@hlcc.org
Secretary	Jennifer Ziegler	secretary@hlcc.org
Section	Trustee	E-Mail
1	Sue Buruchian	trustee1@hlcc.org
2	Lyle Timpson	trustee2@hlcc.org
3	Heidi Fuhrmann	trustee3@hlcc.org
4	Joe Sweeney	trustee4@hlcc.org
5	Julia Campbell	trustee5@hlcc.org
6	Melissa Hardin	trustee6@hlcc.org
7	Stuart Blank	trustee7@hlcc.org
8	Joan Danaher	trustee8@hlcc.org
9	Thomas Castiglione	trustee9@hlcc.org
10	Madeline Hollingsworth	trustee10@hlcc.org
11	Eric Card	trustee11@hlcc.org
12	Robert Reffelt	trustee12@hlcc.org

Upcoming Meetings

Buildings and Grounds – Tuesday, November 7 – 7 pm
Clubhouse Committee – No meeting scheduled at this time
Communications Committee – Saturday, November 11 - 10 am
Ecology Committee – Wednesday, October 25 – 8 pm
Fish Committee – Thursday, October 19 – 7 pm
Planning Committee - No meeting schedule at this time
Road Committee – Thursday, November 2 – 7 pm
Rules and By-Laws – No meeting scheduled at this time
Voting Board Workshop – Wednesday, October 11 – 7:30 pm
Voting Board Meeting – Friday, October 20 - 8 pm
Since all meetings are subject to change, please confirm meeting times by contacting the chairperson of the committee or the Club Office prior to the meeting time.

Spotlight on Rules

Public Safety

Slow down and drive safe! Ensuring safety on our roads is a top priority in our community. Please drive responsibly, with due consideration for the safety of others. This is especially crucial during school hours and at bus stops when children are present. Let's collectively uphold road safety for everyone's benefit.



Boat Removal Notice from Docks

DAVE MARTIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Boats must be removed from all docks by Sunday evening, October 15, 2023.

Please take NOTICE that all boats, canoes, kayaks, etc. on all Club docks **must be removed by Sunday, October 15, 2023**, in order to provide time for staff to relocate the docks for winter storage. In accordance with Club Rules, any boat and/or vessel left on Club docks after October 15th will subject the owner to a \$500 penalty assessment and removal of the boat by the Club, at the owner's expense.
Article IV, Paragraph 2.D:

Failure to remove any boat by October 15th shall be a Tier 4 offense and the boat may be removed by the Club, at the owner's expense.

Avoid costly penalty assessments – remove your boats from all docks by October 15.



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About Changes in your Recorded Deed

In planning changes to your ownership of property that would be reflected in the recorded Deed, contacting the Club Office before you do so for guidance is advisable and will eliminate any misunderstandings. The Club's By-Laws, in part, define Active Members as those who own property in Highland Lakes. When persons take title to property in Highland Lakes when they do not own other Highland Lakes property at that time, even when they join in the ownership of property with someone who currently owns property in Highland Lakes, they automatically become an active member and are required to pay the Initiation Fee. If you are considering adding anyone to your Deed, a wife, parent, child, friend, etc., please be aware of these By-Law requirements.

Sometimes members form a living or family trust as part of their estate planning. However, even this type of trust is a different, and therefore new, owner of property, and the payment of the Initiation Fee is required.

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Roe Hall, Administrative Assistant
Climeen Wikoff, Editor
Special Thanks to the
Communications Committee and
all our contributors

PO Box 578 - 2240 Lakeside Drive West
Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422
973-764-4366 / Email: info@hlcc.org



October 2023



Highland Lakes Happenings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1	2 5:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Ceramics	3 9:30 AM Playgroup 1:00 PM Bocce 7:00 PM Artists Group 7:00 PM Bldgs. & Grnds. Comm. Mtg.	4 5:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts	5 8:00 AM-9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 1:00 PM Bocce 6:30 PM Teen Council 7:00 PM Road Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Stitching	6 10:00 AM Pickleball 6:00 PM Lantern Walk - Beach 1 6:30 PM Bunco	7 10:00 AM Fall Cleanup Day 7:00 PM An Evening w/Spirits																																																																																				
8 Private Member Rental	9 5:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Ceramics	10 9:30 AM Playgroup 12:00 PM Sr. Club Lunch 1:00 PM Bocce	11 5:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 7:30 PM VB Workshop	12 8:00 AM-9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 1:00 PM Bocce 7:00 PM Stitching	13 10:00 AM Pickleball	14 Private Member Rental																																																																																				
15 9:30 AM Committee Chair Breakfast	16 5:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts 7:00 PM Ceramics	17 9:30 AM Playgroup 1:00 PM Bocce	18 5:00 PM Pickleball 5:00 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Scouts	19 8:00 AM-9:30 AM Yoga & Meditation 1:00 PM Bocce 7:00 PM Fish Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Stitching 7:30 PM Chess Club	20 10:00 AM Pickleball 8:00 PM Voting Board Mtg.	21 Private Member Party																																																																																				
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29 4:00 PM Witches Paddle - Beach 1	30 5:00 PM Pickleball 6:00 PM Pumpkin Carving 7:00 PM Ceramics	31 9:30 AM Playgroup 1:00 PM Bocce Happy Halloween	<div><div>Sep 2023</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr></table></div> <div><div>Nov 2023</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S						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	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				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		
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Monday Night Adult Ceramics

BELINDA NORTON

Monday night ceramics is still going strong. We will continue throughout the year. We meet every Monday night at 7 pm in the Clubhouse. Painted pieces to be fired, or just get a shiny spray finish. Cost of items varies. Come join the fun! Highland Lakes members and their guests welcome, and please wear your badge.

Fall Pickleball

KATHI TAYLOR

While we resisted the end of summer with its long daylight hours as long as we could, we are now playing pickleball with a new schedule. We begin our night play an hour earlier, playing Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 -7:00 pm. Friday morning remains at 10:00 -12:00. Our plan is to keep this schedule until the time change in November when the Monday and Wednesday sessions will start at 2:00 pm. Any Highland Lakes member can join our Team Reach group which gives you access to updated schedules, court conditions and the opportunity to reach out for pick-up games with other members. All you need to do is text me so I can verify that you are a member and then I can send you a link. We are all hoping that this winter will be a repeat of last year with its mild temperatures. We played outdoors every month last year and look forward to keeping the streak going. As always, wear your badge when on the courts. Kathi Taylor 973-303-2689.

Highland Lakes

Country Clubs and Community Association

Witches Paddle & Beach Bonfire

Witch Costumes Encouraged
Kayakers Welcomed!

Calendar Icon

OCTOBER 29

Clock Icon

4:00 PM

Location Pin Icon

BEACH 1

www.hlcc.org

MEMBERS & THEIR GUESTS ONLY
BADGES REQUIRED

Facebook Icon

Instagram Icon

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Club Finances and Assessments

DAVE MARTIN, GENERAL MANAGER

At its regular meeting in September, the Voting Board approved the annual operating budget for the 2024 fiscal year which began on October 1, 2023. The new budget is largely consistent with prior budgets in terms of expense levels and spending priorities and includes a modest increase in annual assessments. Annual assessment invoices have been mailed to all members along with a cover letter from Club Treasurer, Lou Iannucci, which outlines several changes in the way the Club will manage assessments, collections, finances, and investments going forward. The purpose of this article is to provide some additional background information on why these changes were implemented and the potential benefits they bring to the Club and its members.

A two-part assessment.

The change that will be most apparent to members is that the annual assessment now includes a combination of two charges - an operating assessment to cover day-to-day expenses, and a “reserve assessment” which will be used exclusively to fund the repair/replacement of major assets like roads, roofs, heating and air conditioning systems, vehicles, and equipment. Reserve assessment amounts are set according to the cashflow requirements of a 30-year reserve study and will be held in a Replacement Reserve investment account until needed.

What is a reserve study and why do we need one? A reserve study is an important planning and budgeting tool which greatly improves the Club’s ability to plan and pay for the future repair and replacement of major assets. Developing a reserve study begins by first establishing an inventory of all major assets (or components), then estimating the current condition, remaining useful life, and future replacement cost of each component. And finally, a financial analysis is used to determine the annual cashflow required to fund future replacements. The result is an annual reserve assessment due from each member which ensures the Replacement Reserve Fund remains fully funded over the 30-year period of the study.

Monthly payment plan options.

Also new this year is a requirement that members select one of three (3) payment plan options. In the past, members were permitted to pay whatever amount they wished, whenever they wished, provided that a certain amount was paid by February to avoid late payment charges, and the account was paid in full by the end of May. Unfortunately, this approach can result in unpredictable cash flow, delayed detection and collection of past due amounts, and increased accounting and administrative effort.

By offering the option to pay in full (and receive the customary discount) or pay in six (6) or twelve (12) equal monthly installments, members can select the plan which works best for them, including a low-cost monthly payment option, and the Club will benefit from more predictable cash flow, reduced accounting and administrative effort, and the ability to quickly identify and collect past due accounts. The new payment plan options should raise few concerns, if any, because they are like most any other installment plans, such as mortgages or auto loans. Installment plans are interest free so long as payments continue to be received at the Club office on time, within 30 days of the due date.

Collection of fees and assessments in arrears.

Fortunately, years ago the Club had the foresight to set aside fees and assessments in arrears to build up sorely needed funds for future capital improvements and major asset replacements. More recently, however, the amount of income from collections has been steadily declining to a fraction of what it once was and can no longer be relied upon as our primary means of funding capital improvements and replacements, hence the need for a reserve assessment. In response, the Voting Board is evaluating policy and procedural changes to further improve the collection of past due accounts. The need for such changes has become more evident now that we have a formal reserve study which clearly identifies both the costs and timeline for future capital and replacement needs.

Legal obligation and duty of care.

The Voting Board is legally bound to put the best interests of the Club above all else, to prioritize needs over wants, and to maintain a strategic long-term perspective. Together, the steps outlined above are intended to...

- Meet board fiduciary and professional responsibilities.
- Anticipate and provide for known capital and replacement needs.
- Ensure equitable cost-sharing over time.
- Reduce the likelihood of special assessments.
- Enhance collections process efficiency and revenue.
- Increase the resale value of individual properties.

All of this is to illustrate that we simply can’t continue managing Club finances as we have in the past. What has worked in the past, and has indeed worked well, must always be viewed with a critical eye toward more recent economic trends and circumstances, current best practices, new technology and our ongoing commitment to safeguard the sound fiscal status of the Club.



HIGHLAND LAKES COUNTRY CLUB CRAFT FAIR

November 4



NOVEMBER 4
10 AM - 3 PM

HLCC Clubhouse
2240 Lakeside Drive West
Highland Lakes, NJ 07422

www.hlcc.org OPEN TO THE PUBLIC





ADULT HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

HIGHLAND LAKES
Country Club and Community Association

Tickets Available
at the Club Office!

OCTOBER 28
8:00 PM
CLUBHOUSE

BYOB
\$20 AT THE DOOR

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2nd Annual Community Book Sale

CAROLYN ACKER, COORDINATOR

Book Donations Accepted Saturday, October 28 – 10 am to 3 pm

The Book Sale is Coming! Once again, the book sale to benefit the Goodwill Fund will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, during the Senior Club’s Fall Harvest and Craft Fair at the Clubhouse. Please bring the books you are donating to the Clubhouse on Saturday, October 28, between the hours of 10 am to 3 pm. Please bring your books to the basement area of the Clubhouse (under the deck facing the swim lanes).

We appreciate the time and effort it takes to collect, inspect, sort, and hoist your books down to the Clubhouse. Still, we ask that you make sure your books are in good condition. We cannot sell books with water damage, mildew or a musty smell, or books with loose bindings, covers or pages. Thank you in advance for all of your efforts and for donating your books.

Below is a list of the genres of books we are taking and those we cannot accept this year:

Accepting:

Fiction, including:

- Action/Adventure
- Classic/Literary
- Contemporary
- Dystopian
- Fantasy/Science Fiction
- Historical Fiction
- Horror/Thriller
- Mystery
- Romance
- Satire
- Short Story
- Western Fiction
- Women’s Fiction
- Young Adult

Non-Fiction, including:

- Art and Photography
- Biography
- Historical Non-fiction
- Humor
- Memoir and Autobiography
- Parenting
- Philosophy
- Religion/Spirituality
- Philosophy
- Self-Help
- Travel
- True Crime

Children’s Books of all kinds. including:

- Baby and toddler books
- Picture books
- Easy Readers
- Chapter Books
- Young Adult

****Not Accepting:**

- Atlases
- Cookbooks
- Encyclopedias
- Gardening
- How-to or DIY
- Old research or reference books
- Textbooks



We have a lot of blue herons, but I captured this photo of the less outgoing green heron hanging on one of the rocks in Lake 3. I haven’t seen one on any of the lakes before this summer.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBIN BURCHILL

Evening With Spirits - Background on Mediums

JENNIFER ZIEGLER, WOMEN’S AUXILIARY

October 7

Eleanor Wagner, founder of the New Jersey Spirit Hunters formerly The Lady Ghostbusters Paranormal Team, is the author of six books: *Dream a Little Dream* (2015), *Sussex County Hauntings and Other Strange Phenomena: Parts I and II* (2019 and 2020), *Warren County Hauntings and Other Strange Phenomena*, and her most recent paranormal title, *Sussex County Hauntings and Other Strange Phenomena: Part III*. Her children’s book series, *Jeanine Beane Meets Mavis the Camel* released in December of 2023. She is the host of two paranormal podcasts: “Eleanor Wagner’s Strange & Scary World” broadcast out of the Paranormal UK Radio Network and “Eleanor Wagner’s Creepin’ It Reel” out of the Coast2Coast Entertainment Network streamed through her YouTube Channel Eleanor Wagner. She has been featured on Paranormal Caught on Camera, in American Paranormal Magazine and the Lake Hopatcong News and has been on the Milford Readers and Writers Festival panels three times. Eleanor says, “Everybody likes a ghost story but there’s no better ghost story than a true ghost story!” She brings the story alive with history of the towns and location, adding paranormal to the mix, and tying it all together with photos and evidence.

Jill Marie Kelly - I have been a Psychic Medium my whole life. I always was connected to the spirit world for as long as I can remember. When I learned Reiki my psychic gifts really took off. At first, I thought I was crazy, but the more I learned, shared my talents, and helped people the more I realized what powerful tools I have. I am a Master Psychic Healer, Psychic Medium, and Reiki Master Teacher using my unique skills in my sessions bringing healing balance to your body while connecting you to spirit for your greatest good. Author of the book *Things I Should Keep to Myself*.

HALLOWEEN FUN

AT HIGHLAND LAKES BEACH ONE

LET'S HAVE A SPOOKTACULAR TIME

OCTOBER 28
RAINDATE OCTOBER 29
3:30 PM
BEACH 1

Trunk or Treat & Haunted Trail

TRUNKS ARRIVE AT 3:00 PM

CANDY DONATIONS APPRECIATED!

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MEMBERS & THEIR GUESTS ONLY
BADGES REQUIRED

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Water Quality Report from Annual Meeting

LYLE TIMPSON, VOTING BOARD CHAIR

August 20, 2023

The following is the report I presented at the Annual Meeting.

As many of you know, in April, the Board voted unanimously to require septic pumping every three years. I want to share a brief background on how the Board arrived at that decision. A decision that was a year and four months in the making.

Many of you, over the past few years, have recognized that the water quality in our lakes has been in decline.

- For two and a half summers Lake 4 was shut down entirely,
- last year the Main Lake was shut for a week due to a Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB).

While we knew nitrogen and phosphorus were exacerbating excessive weed growth and algae, we had no data to pinpoint the CAUSES of the high nitrogen and phosphorus levels. We needed to find the sources of the nitrogen and phosphorus.

Under the leadership of past President Michael Gelfand, the Board undertook three studies which Princeton Hydro had been urging us to do for several years: bathymetric, hydrologic and nutrient load.

In July 2022, just over a year ago, the results of those studies were received. The findings were worse than we expected: The 60+ page report examined environmental sources of nitrogen and phosphorus, such as groundwater runoff, erosion, Canada geese and septic systems, and estimated the impact of each source for each lake. I can tell you now, Canada goose poop is NOT the primary cause of our problems. In Lakes 1, 3, 4, and 5, the percentage of septic impact on the nitrogen and phosphorus levels is OVER 90%. The percentage for Lake 2 was 87%.

The report stated:

- “loading from septic systems is the largest contributor of nutrients to all five of the main lakes and should be a priority in management efforts.”
- “Septic management should be implemented to help minimize nutrient loading”
- “In general, the inspections and pump outs should be viewed as an insurance policy for the long-term proper operation of the septic system and not an imposition of the property rights of a homeowner.”

Wanting to be sure of the accuracy of these findings, in October 2022, the Voting Board sent the report to an independent consultant for peer review. In February of this year, the independent peer review, conducted by Applied Watershed Sciences, was received. They not only concurred with Princeton Hydro’s findings but, in fact went further stating:

- “Nitrogen tends to be very mobile in soils of even normally functioning leach fields.” “Nitrogen mobility in soils and groundwater is extremely problematic in nearly all scenarios.”
- “Even if half of all homes are used only seasonally, septic loads would still be significant to the HLCC waterbodies.”
- “Regular 2 years septic system pumping and inspections will help identify failing systems.”

Highland Lakes, conceived of as a summer community,

has very small land plots. Today most properties have a well and a septic system squeezed onto these tiny lots, and most homes are being used year-round. The concern about septic runoff goes beyond the quality of our lakes. Septic runoff may also be infiltrating our individual wells which we use for drinking, cooking and bathing. The Board had asked our attorneys if we had the legal authority to implement septic regulations and confirmed that the Board does have that authority under our current bylaws.

In the course of Board discussions:

- we considered residents with financial constraints? We’re working to determine if a separate 501c3 can be developed to help address that issue. Also, our attorney reported that “grants are available to seniors or people with disabilities or limited financial resources if the septic needs to be upgraded for their own use... These grants are available through the NJ Department of Consumer Affairs.”
- we considered people with newer systems? Installers of those systems were contacted, and they reported that while the mechanical components of those systems are maintained every year, those systems still have holding tanks and accordingly they should be pumped every 2-3 years.
- we considered those who live alone or only use their houses on weekends? We referred back to the independent analysis: “Even under those conditions, septic loads would still be significant to the HLCC waterbodies.”

No proposal was a perfect fit for every home and situation, so in the end we turned again to the experts. The U.S. EPA, NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, and lake management experts all recommend that septic systems be pumped every 2 to 3 years. Other nearby communities such as Lake Mohawk already have a 3- year pumping mandate. West Milford Township just narrowed their original “3-5 year” mandate to every 3 years. Green Pond has required 3 years septic pumping for many years.

The Board initiated a \$50 dues credit as an incentive to encourage pump-outs and to help defray costs. That incentive began last October and is available to all members through September 2025.

The Board has been working diligently to combat the lakes’ decline. We’ve implemented several new programs (weed harvesting, carp removal, bio-char, etc.), but the success of our efforts will be compromised and limited if we, as a community, fail to address the septic issues.

The bottom line: The lakes are our biggest asset. They define our community and dictate our property values. Nobody will want to buy a home at Highland Swamps! A 3-year septic pumping requirement is not a radical policy; it’s a responsible one.

Back in 2021, our attorney provided some board guidelines. She wrote: “You may have a personal opinion about what you want to see happen, or what would be best for you. However, your decision as a Voting Board member should be based on what would be best for the Club and entire community.” That sentiment is now applicable to you – the members – as well. Sometimes we must put our personal preferences aside and step up to do what’s best for the common good.

Local Artist Shines with Face Painting

DORI ZAAR

Kerry Tobin of Highland Lakes was the amazing face painter at the Vernon Street Fair on Saturday, September 9. She created mermaids, unicorns, dragons and even a Spider-Man. This talented artist also works as Pixie Pop the Clown and twists many a balloon into all sorts of shapes and sizes. Seems she left a corporate job over 12 years ago for a chance to “clown around.” Look for her at Warwick’s Farmers Market on Sundays.



Next Newsette: November 4, 2023

Newsette articles should be submitted on the Friday before the week of publication at noon. Under no circumstances will submissions be accepted after noon on Monday of the week of publication. Typed submissions must be emailed to the Club Office at info@hlcc.org. Sorry – we can only print photographs submitted as .jpg files with a minimum of 150 dpi. Thanks!

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This Month's Featured Artist

DENNIS DALELIO

"The Saint After the Saltire"

This work (60"x48" acrylic and India ink on canvas) explores the aspects of life that can go with us when we die. Through acrylic painted abstraction and a loosely representational India ink drawing that dominates the composition boatless sails and a small boat carrying a fallen man is pushed into eternity by a collection of angels. The fallen is St. Andrew, the fisherman, who was killed on a saltire, an x shaped cross that marks his corpse. The angels fly through that which defined him before his calling, the sails of his fishing boat. It is there where the invisible wind pushed him to his work, but also spoke to him of something greater to come.



Bricks are always available to purchase to add to the Path to Goodwill. Stop in the office for an order form.



Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative Holiday Card Art Contest



Pictured: Art by 2022 winner Olivia Edsall

The holidays will be here
before you know it!

If you have a young artist in
your family, they can help
spread some holiday cheer
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from children and
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for this competition until
Friday, October 27th.

Find our application at:
www.sussexrec.com/holiday-card



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Preparing Like Squirrels for What's to Come

STU BLANK, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Originally Appeared in October 2020 Newsette

As I sit by the water this early fall weekend admiring the changing leaves with the explosive oranges, reds and yellows on the trees, it brings to reality that summer is ending and fall brings a certain amount of chores. While this is beautiful, it reminds me that I have to start thinking about fall and winter prep for our log cabin. So between the pumpkin spice coffee and apple cider donuts there are jobs that should be done as we prepare the cabin for the months ahead. Watching the squirrels gathering food like they never have enough is somewhat disheartening; if you look at the Farmer's Almanac, squirrels gathering nuts early forecasts snow and a colder winter.

So back to winter prep: How's your fireplace? When was it last used, but more importantly, when was it last cleaned or inspected? The NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency) says chimneys, fireplaces, and vents shall be inspected at least once a year for soundness, freedom from deposits, and correct clearances. If you are going to use your fireplace, it's recommended to get it inspected and cleaned. If you have an oil furnace, is your tank full and have you had the heating unit serviced? Same with a propane furnace; make sure your tank is full. If you close your cabin down for the season, has the water been drained from your pipes, and have you put antifreeze in your sink, tub and basin drains? Make sure your lawn furniture is secured and covered, and put your patio umbrella away. If you have a floating dock or swim platform, have you secured it or removed it from the lake yet. Don't forget to remove your ladder if you have one on your dock.



If your boat is on a freeway bring it back to your property, same if it's on a Club rack. The Club isn't responsible if it gets damaged over the winter. So as fall continues, be a good steward of your property. There is good evidence that mulched leaves contribute to the health of your lawn and plant beds by returning nutrients to the soil. Unmulched leaves left to linger are easily swept away by the wind, eventually ending up on a neighbor's property or the roadway where they become quite dangerous when wet. For everyone's sake, keep your yard tidy and after the holidays are over take down your decorations. No one wants to see ghouls and goblins at Thanksgiving or Christmas.



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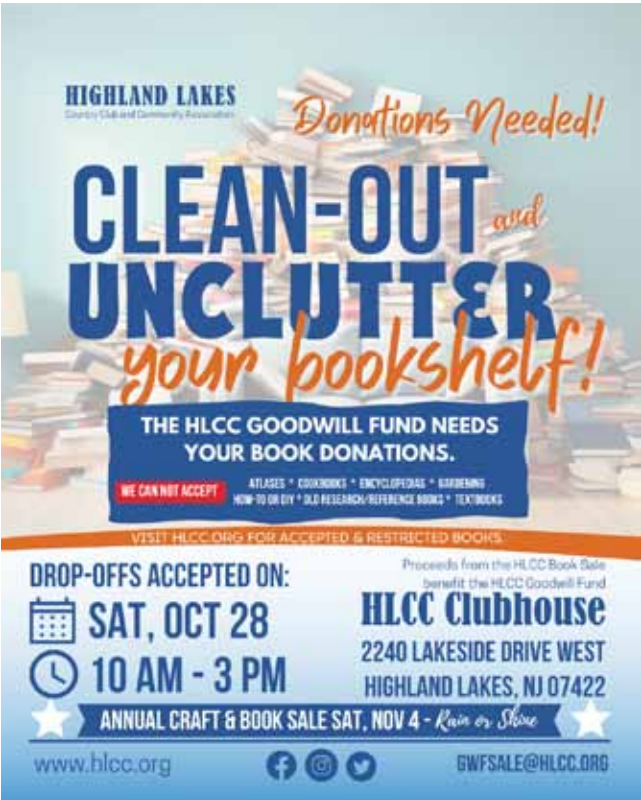
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What goes down your drain has a big impact on your septic system. Avoid harsh chemicals and use cleaners/detergents in moderation. Learn more at www.epa.gov/septic.





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DROP-OFFS ACCEPTED ON: **SAT, OCT 28** 10 AM - 3 PM

HLCC Clubhouse
2240 LAKESIDE DRIVE WEST
HIGHLAND LAKES, NJ 07422

ANNUAL CRAFT & BOOK SALE SAT, NOV 4 - Rain or Shine

www.hlcc.org GWFSALE@HLCC.ORG



Pumpkin Carving & Potluck Supper

HIGHLAND LAKES Country Club Community Association

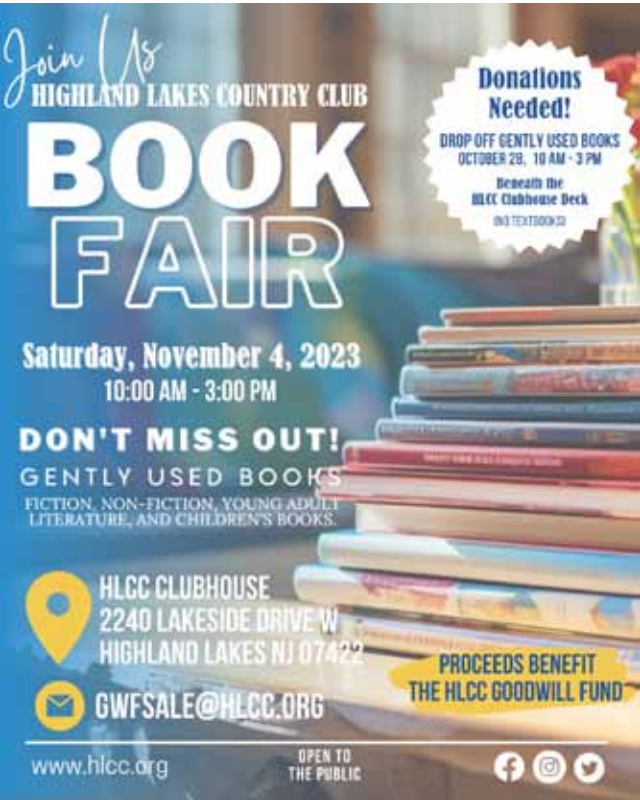
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OCTOBER 30 6:00 PM

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Saturday, November 4, 2023 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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Women’s Bowling

PAT WOOTTON, JUDI SUNDA, COORDINATORS

The ladies have completed their bowling summer fun! Our celebratory luncheon was held at the Warwick Valley Country Club on August 30. We enjoyed a delicious lunch and plenty of chatter. Thanks to Dianne Kelly for making those arrangements.

The final results were:

- First Place - Team 1 - Pat Wootton, Judi Sunda, Tara Burns
 - Second place - Golden Girls - Lyn Kaplan, Eva Willever
 - Third Place - Bowled Over - Dianne Kelly, Jennifer Ziegler, Cheryl Kretschmar
 - Fourth Place - Almost There - Joyce Healy, Kathy Grifone, Joan Marra
 - Fifth Place - Sunshine Gals - Dawn Miller, Elaine Hossfield, Susan Stone
 - High Average - Tara Burns - 145
 - High Series - Judi Sunda - 453
 - High Game - Dianne Kelly - 174
 - Most Improved - Pat Wootton - by 11
- Great fun and exercise was had by all. Come join us next summer!



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The Little Library

DORI ZARR

There is a community movement featuring small, quaint neighborhood houses offering books to take or to donate. It was started in Wisconsin and is a non-profit organization of stewards offering books for free and is active in over 120 countries.

The good news is that we currently have such a library not far from Beach 3. These boxes are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with books for adults and for children. Check it out on your next drive or walk around the big lake. Many thanks to Judy for setting up her tiny house of reading treasures.



HIGHLAND LAKES
Country Club and Community Association

Live FROM THE Seckler Stage

Open Mic NIGHT

www.hlcc.org

TALENT WANTED

NOVEMBER 18
7 PM
SECKLER ROOM

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Winterizing

Now is the time to plan and act on things we only remember when the cold north wind is blowing.

Windows often provide the biggest impact especially if you have single pane glass. Quality double glazed; low E windows properly installed can reduce heating costs by about 8%. Doors should be tight and weather-stripped.

If you have a floor exposed to the outside or crawl-space, insulate the floor. Be sure to caulk or use low expansion foam anywhere you see daylight. Paint to reduce the effect of weather. If you are losing too much heat through the roof, consider spray foam insulation.

Have your heating system serviced and cleaned every year. If you are considering replacing the heating system, evaluate a direct-vent unit; they are much more efficient and usually don't require a chimney. ETS units are very cost-effective. Multi-zone units (heat pumps) for air conditioning and supplemental heat are being used more frequently; they are cost effective and don't require ducting. Also, clean fireplace flues.

Insulate pipes and eliminate any drafts. If you have problems with buried pipes, try installing rigid insulation under the ground surface and over the pipe.

Clear branches from overhead lines. Clean gutters.

Jim Schriener, AIA, Licensed Architect
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Security & Compliance Activity Summary Report - July 2023 – September 2023

SEAN JARON, SECURITY MANAGER

Below is a summary of recent Security calls/incidents and Compliance Officer activity. This information is provided to keep you informed of the important work being performed on behalf of the community. Please contact security@hlcc.org or call 973-764-4266 with any questions concerning Security or Compliance operations.

Calls/Incidents	Monthly	5/1/23 to Date
Police Assist	3	17
Traffic Assist	2	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	9
Medical Response/Assists	10	60
Fire Response/Assist	2	17
Vandalism/Criminal Activity	0	1
Patrols/Amenity Checks	363	1,773
Badge Violations (Members)	2	5
Trespassing	12	99
Parking Violations	1	21
Prohibited Vehicles	3	40
Dock/Rack Violations	1	6
Noise Complaints	2	18
Domestic/Disorderly	0	0
Animal Complaints	6	30
Property Violations	5	9
Rental Violations	5	17
Tree Removal Inspections	17	52
Tree Preservation	0	1
Staff and Volunteer Direction	1	2
Open Cases	4	13
Closed Cases	2	3
Current Case Load		33
TOTAL	443	2,233



Winfield Winters gave a fascinating speech about his being a ships pilot in NY Harbor at the Feast of San Gennaro luncheon for the Sr. Club.

Senior Club News

JOYCE HEALY, PRESIDENT, SENIOR CLUB

Greetings, fellow Lakers!
Hope all is well with you and you're as happy as a little bird with a french fry! Here's an update about our Mighty Seniors:
We enjoyed our annual BBQ in September, a great San Gennaro Feast with wonderful fare prepared by Chef Frank! We enjoyed our famous guest speaker, Mr. Winters, and his interesting talk.
The annual Lantern Walk will be on Friday, October 6, from 6-9 pm at Beach 1. There will be free snacks, a lantern-lit walk around the lake and a campfire on the beach. Bring a battery-operated lantern or flashlight, decorate those baby

strollers and bring a folding chair to enjoy the campfire. If you want to make s'mores, please bring your own supplies.
The Mighty Seniors will celebrate Oktoberfest on October 11 at 12 noon off premises from the clubhouse. I'm finalizing dinner plans with Warwick Country Club for the 11th. Check with me to be certain plans didn't change.
Our annual Pumpkin Carving night with Potluck Supper will be Monday, October 30, 6-9 pm. Bring a pumpkin to carve and something to share for the pot luck.
Here's my cell # 845-544-3749, to call with questions. Lantern Walk and Pumpkin Carving Party are open to our community. All welcome. Love ya, Joyce H.



Photos courtesy of Sue Buruchian

Vernon Township Housing Market Report - August 2023

"Having grown up in Highland Lakes, I understand the value in this thriving, active community. Contact me today to discuss a no-cost comparative market analysis for your property."

# Beds	Avg. Sales Price	Avg. Days on Market	Sale / Listing Price
1	\$150,000	14	100%
2	\$249,636	65	101%
3	\$374,772	37	103%
4	\$496,955	28	98%
5+	\$650,000	15	109%
TOWN	\$357,262	44	101%

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BOATS/TRAILERS: Old unwanted boats and trailers taken away for free. Also, can move boats from home to dock and shore for reasonable rates. Call Al for details: 973-271-4282 5/24

ELECTRIC: Free estimates, insured and bonded. Serving HLCC since 1986 license and permit #8521. Brian Boeren 973-670-4175. 7/6/24

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MOUNTAIN CHIMNEY SWEEP: Since 1977. We clean, repair, reline and inspect chimneys. Also repair heatilators, replace dampers, chimney caps and repointing. Fully insured, call 973-764-3125. 11/23

2023 Hobie Cat Report

RICK THOMPSON

2023 Hobie Cat fleet races were great. Our first-place person is our dock coordinator, Chris Alber. Without Chris, there would be no races and no Hobie Cat fleet. Chris volunteers her time, keeps the scores and writes the articles and takes the best pictures. All of us in the fleet can't even begin to give our thanks to Chris. Chip Ehrhardt unfortunately had a medical issue that kept him from racing this year, but Chip did make it to the dock to cheer us on. Reed Ulmer has truly mastered the art of sailing the Hobie Cat. Reed has passed the two older master Hobie Cat sailors and taken the art of sail racing his Hobie Cat to a new level. Reed was our first-place winner! Our most improved sailing team is Anthony and Aliya: they have greatly improved their performance and their sailing skills and it is great to watch them working together as a team. Chris Conti and Chris's crew and Rick and Raelene would sometimes bring in a first place and both did a great job. In the end all the Hobie Cat teams did incredibly well, and the final scores were close. As we are the fun fleet, we all were winners in the end. Again, many thanks to Chris Alber and Chip Ehrhardt for volunteering their time and making the Hobie Cat fleet possible. Reed took first, Rick and Raelene second, Chris Conti and his crew took third and Anthony and Aliya took fourth.



Senior Sunfish

MLADEN KRESIC, FLEET CAPTAIN

Summer Season 2023

The 2023 Senior Sunfish racing season ended just as it began, with a beautiful day on September 3, middling winds and some old-new sailors joining the fleet. Yes, double entendre intended. Joining us for these final races, prior to the sailor's picnic, were Max Shriner, visiting from DC, and Reed Ulmer, visiting from the Hobie fleet! This makes 20 sailors sailing at least two races this season.

Following Saturday's fabulous winds and a great All-Boat Regatta (kudos to MJ and Lorraine) these Labor Day Sunday races, seemed like an afterthought, though there was fun to be had and pride on the line for the nine sailors contending.

Both races were tight course 1s, with the competitiveness of the fleet increasing as it had throughout the season. Competitiveness is a relative term as Mark was solidly in first both races. In the first race, I was fortunate to edge out David for second, with Colonel Wayne taking a solid fourth ahead of Bill, Roger, Allan, Max and Reed (who had a very late start).

In the second race, David followed Mark within striking distance for the first three legs, until Mark pulled away after the last...well... "mark." Coming off the island on port, surging at the finish was I, only to find that David crossed on starboard a boat length ahead. Allan, having a day to remember for next season, edged out the colonel for fourth – Congrats Allan! Roger, Bill, Max and Reed followed closely in succession, all hungry for the Sailor's Picnic.

Thanks Mark and Sue for organizing a fun picnic and a full house!

So, the standings for the season had Mark edging out JW for the Championship Division with 22 points vs. 31. Third place was only one point apart, with David at 61 and Bob at 62. Congratulations Mark, JW and David! In the Challenger Division, Roger, Bill and Allan were 1, 2, 3, with 88, 98 and 112 points respectively! Roger, there is a promotion in your future.

I would be remiss not to mention and thank again, the BEST dock committee in the fleet, LuAnne and Ellen who held the fort through some iffy weather, heat and occasional controversy, including the season's only general recall, which happened, yes, in the very last race of the season.

Reminder, just because summer season is done, sailing

is not over. Come and sail during October – I will send an email to the fleets – let's get some boats out on Sundays. For all prospective and current HLCC sailors, please spread the word! If you want to sail and have any questions, call me at (203) 918-1102 or email me at mladen@negotiators.com.

September 3 Race 1

1. Mark Buruchian
2. Mladen Kresic
3. David Goldman
4. Wayne Wisniewski
5. Bill Weis
6. Roger Kirchner
7. Allan Napolitano
8. Max Shriner
9. Reed Ulmer (dnf)

September 3 Race 2

1. Mark Buruchian
2. David Goldman
3. Mladen Kresic
4. Allan Napolitano
5. Wayne Wisniewski
6. Roger Kirchner
7. Bill Weis
8. Max Shriner
9. Reed Ulmer

FINAL RESULTS FOR SENIOR SUNFISH 2023

Championship Division

1. Mark Buruchian
2. John Wayne Wisniewski
3. David Goldman
4. Bob Tomsey
5. Will Kresic
6. Mladen Kresic
7. James Sullivan

Challenger Division

1. Roger Kirchner
2. Bill Weis
3. Allan Napolitano
4. Wayne Wisniewski
5. Luca Bonardi
6. Alex Kresic
7. Rob Wisniewski

All Boat Regatta

MARYJANE KRESIC

September 2, 2023

The All Boat Regatta was held on Saturday, September 2, with 26 boats in attendance. It was an exciting day to race as the wind was good and held up for the four races sailed. Adding to the excitement was Luca Bonardi who kayaked and had two first place finishes. The last time a kayaker won was in 2012 with four first place finishes. Thank you to all who came out from near and far to help make this a fun day as a good time was had by all.

Overall, the top winner was Luca but as he was kayaking and tied in points with Kevin Gaston, the sailing win went to Kevin, an exceptional windsurfer. Third place went to Kevin, Emma, and Tripp Murphy in their FJ. Fourth, was Reed Ulmer and crew in his Hobie, and fifth overall were Mark and Sue Buruchian in their FJ. Other honors go to Cooper Conti – Junior sailor, who took home *The Joe Mastrangelo* trophy for top Junior. The *I Sailed* award was given to Anthony Napolitano and Aliya as they had a little trouble keeping there Hobie upright in the wind.

Division winners in the FJ Fleet were the Murphy family, followed by Mark and Sue and then in third, Rob and Lisa Wisniewski. Adult Sunfish winners were Mladen Kresic in first, Max Shriner second and Nancy Grimaldi. Junior Sunfish was won by Cooper followed by Giselle Bonardi in a tie for points which he won having finished one of the races in a higher place than Giselle. Force 5 winners were Grant Wisniewski followed by Lou Iannucci. Hobie and Other division was won by Reed Ulmer followed by Rick Thompson and Rae and then Chris Conti and Jeff Gordon. Rounding out the fleet were the windsurfers with Kevin winning followed by Joe Gaston.

As always thank you to Lorayne Castiglione for helping to provide us with a delicious pizza and salad luncheon afterwards and to Chris Mann for Dock Committee.



Highland Lakes hosted the final regatta of the SANJL Championship Sunfish Series on September 30, 2023. 17 sailors representing 6 lakes; Packanack, Spruce Run/Hunterdon, Green Pond, Mountain Lakes, Pines Lake and Highland Lakes duelled for final placings. Congratulations to all. It was a great day!

Volunteers

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Highland Lakes



