

THE LARK

January 2020

Meadowhill.net



LUTHER WEEKS – OUR MEADOW HILL PRESIDENT



Most of us know Luther Weeks and his wife, Denise – both very active at Meadow Hill. Luther is serving the third year of his current term on the Board, the last two years as President. It's a job that he is quite familiar with, having been President for three years a few years back. But there is plenty more to know about Luther than his service on the Executive Board, some of it cluing us into why he is so good at what he does. Luther is a fifteen- year resident of Meadow Hill and a retiree of Travelers where he was a computer scientist. He is an Army veteran and father of two, who likes to walk and bike as well as to garden. He was drawn to the Executive Board as a means of fully understanding what goes on behind the scenes and to tap his strengths in

financial and contracts areas. Although he is not a lawyer, Luther has a keen interest in understanding the law and has taken advantage of lots of training offered by the Community Associations Institute. Luther had a ton of experience in contracts and financial management, which is certainly valuable as MH President. When asked why he volunteers on the Board, Luther says he just wants to use his skills and knowledge to make Meadow Hill a great place to live.

Luther does other volunteer work as well. For years, he has dedicated lots of time to ensuring Voting Integrity, working not only here in CT but also serving on a national group overseeing election auditing. He organizes volunteers to observe and report on election results for the state of CT, working with the Secretary of State's office. Luther also sits on the Glastonbury Democratic Town Committee. So, Luther is a pretty busy guy.

When asked about recent Board accomplishments, Luther says he is most proud of the renovations to the pool and tennis/pickle ball courts and border fencing in 2018-19 but just as proud of the Board's commitment to financial integrity of our reserves for future expenses. This is often an unappreciated duty of the Board but a responsibility that Luther knows is essential to our current and future financial management. When you see Luther the next time, thank him for his ongoing service to Meadow Hill.

CONGRATULATIONS DARIEN

Congratulations to Darien Covert, our Facility Manager for recently celebrating 20 years of service at Meadow Hill. We just couldn't imagine Meadow Hill without his skills, knowledge and management abilities. Thanks for everything you do for us!



KEY DATES

January 1 - New Year's Day
January 8 – Game Day
January 9 - Law Enforcement
Appreciation Day

January 20 – Martin Luther King Day
February 11 – Board Listening Session
February 19 – Board Meeting (no meeting in January)

2020 MEADOW HILL BUDGET

BUDGET



The 2020 Meadow Hill Budget passed at the December 12th Owners Budget meeting, after the committee presented a practical budget and capital expenditure plan for the coming year.

The committee presented both the budget and a list of capital project accomplishments for the year which drew from our reserves. Of note in 2019 – the barn roof, North fence, tennis courts, bridge railing, extensive tree work and five residential roofs. I think you can agree that MH looks great because of these capital projects using our reserve funds.

For 2020, we have fewer projects planned with a replacement golf cart, a new pool heater and a new Hollister House door in the plan. We will transfer \$55,300 from operating funds to do this. We will spend about \$58,000 for these and some pitched roofs and retaining walls as well. Budget highlights: Association fee income (monthly common charge) will increase by 2%, due mostly to water and insurance increases. This increase is in line with Social Security and general inflation increases and just under the average of our last three years of common fees changes.

Thanks to this year's Budget Committee – Larry Abbott, Connie Liscomb, Luther Weeks, David Faxon and Ed Litke for their intensive work preserving our community while limiting ongoing operating costs to all of us. Submitted by Larry Abbott, Chair.

WELLES TURNER MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

A Dog's Purpose - This dramedy (elements of drama and comedy) follows a dog as he is reincarnated as different breeds, belonging to various owners. Over a course of lifetimes, the canine's existence intersects with that of a young boy who rescued him in 1962. Friday January 3rd. From 2:00 PM – 4:00PM. No registration needed.



Finding your Organizing Groove: How to gain Space and develop Tidy Habits. Sarah Soboleski, LCSW, a social worker and professional organizer will talk about proven steps for tackling any home organizing challenge, explore the pros and cons of the KonMari Method, and will share pictures of her projects with clients. Tuesday January 23rd. From 6:30PM – 7:30 PM. Registration requested and begins Dec. 26, online or at the Reference desk at 860-652-7720 Snow Date : Mon. Jan. 27, 6:30 PM.

Cookbook Club: Come taste with us! The cookbook of the month will be available at the start of the month for your recipe selection. This month's cookbook is "The Whole Foods Cookbook" by John Macey. Free copies of the recipes will be provided to you – just let us know what you pick. You can take the recipes home to cook, then bring your creation in for fellow cookbook club goes on the last Wednesday of every month. Paper plates and flatware will be provided. Wednesday January 29th From 6:00PM – 7:30PM No registration needed. Questions? Call Reference at 860-652-7720.

WINTER STORM SAFETY TIPS

Before the storm

- Build an emergency kit with essentials for your family
- Stock up on non-perishable canned goods and pet food
- Ensure you have adequate medical supplies and prescriptions
- Fill your car with gasoline
- Have access to flashlights and extra batteries
- Have your mobile phone fully charged during the storm
- **Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for proper operation and battery life**

After the storm

- Report power outages quickly on-line at eversource.com or call in CT 800-286-2000
- Unplug sensitive equipment if you don't have surge protectors



SOCIAL HAPPENINGS



Our
**December
7th Holiday Party**
had a great turnout. 67 people
enjoyed a great meal and the
music of Jeff Weiselberg, who was a
big hit. A big thank you to the
committee: the Bryants, the Wilseys,
the Weeks, Barbara Massey, Gerri
Whittemore, Irene Adamson, Bernice
Spencer, Linda Fay, Susan O'Keefe,
Sandry MacGregor, Sandy Marshal,
Kathy Collins, Elaine Lembo, Connie
Liscomb Joan Wentworth, and
Norma Flynn for
their efforts.
Here are some
photos of the event.



Handwashing and Hand Sanitizer Use

at Home, at Play, and Out and About



Germes are everywhere! They can get onto hands and items we touch during daily activities and make you sick. Cleaning hands at key times with soap and water or hand sanitizer is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to those around you.

There are important differences between washing hands with soap and water and cleaning them with hand sanitizer. For example, alcohol-based hand sanitizers don't kill ALL types of germs, such as a stomach bug called norovirus, some parasites, and *Clostridium difficile*, which causes severe diarrhea. Hand sanitizers also may not remove harmful chemicals, such as pesticides and heavy metals like lead. Handwashing reduces the amounts of all types of germs, pesticides, and metals on hands. Knowing when to clean your hands and which method to use will give you the best chance of preventing sickness.

When should I use?

Soap and Water

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone who is sick
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After using the bathroom, changing diapers, or cleaning up a child who has used the bathroom
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After touching an animal, animal food or treats, animal cages, or animal waste
- After touching garbage
- If your hands are visibly dirty or greasy

Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer

- Before and after visiting a friend or a loved one in a hospital or nursing home, unless the person is sick with *Clostridium difficile* (if so, use soap and water to wash hands).
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, and wash with soap and water as soon as you can.

* Do **NOT** use hand sanitizer if your hands are visibly dirty or greasy: for example, after gardening, playing outdoors, or after fishing or camping (unless a handwashing station is not available). Wash your hands with soap and water instead.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

LIKE TO TRAVEL?

If you like to travel, you need to check out The Discoverer website and travel blog <https://www.thediscoverer.com/>. Their motto is “Explore the world from your inbox”. You can sign up for their daily eblog on the website which has plenty of tidbits for travels as well as trip offerings.

Check it out for topics like:

- What you need to know about traveling with pets
- Secrets to saving suitcase space
- Most accessible destinations around the world
- Airlines with the best sales

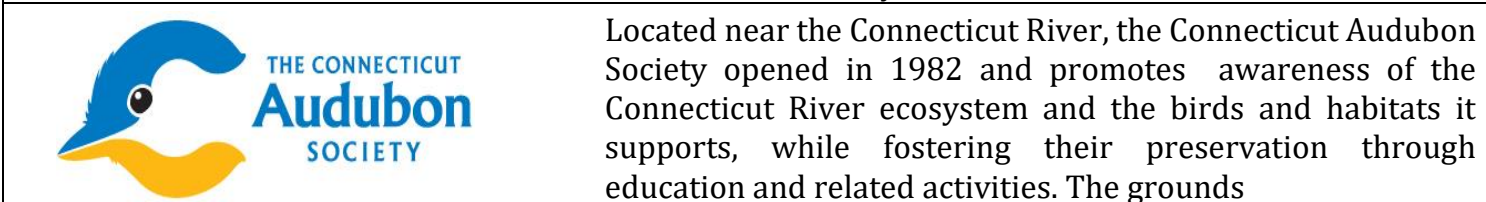
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THE CONNECTICUT AUDUBON SOCIETY

Center at Glastonbury



Located near the Connecticut River, the Connecticut Audubon Society opened in 1982 and promotes awareness of the Connecticut River ecosystem and the birds and habitats it supports, while fostering their preservation through education and related activities. The grounds

surrounding the Center are the entrance to Earle Park trails and an Aviary that houses their non-releasable raptors. You can walk right up to their enclosures to observe these magnificent birds, and also stop in the 4,000 square foot educational facility to learn about activities offered there. A nice, interesting place to visit while walking on the river trails from Meadow Hills. Also, a great place to visit while on a Nature walk with children and grandchildren !

MEADOW HILL RESIDENT NOTES

Welcome New Resident - Please welcome Todd Blais to Unit #242. His phone number is 860-729-1430.

Condolences – Our sincere condolences go out to the family and friends of Nancy Carter-

Menendez, Unit # 53, who passed away on November 30th.

Clubhouse – The Clubhouse is open for all residents every day. Come enjoy the gym, play pool with a friend or check your email. In the event of a scheduled rental, board meeting, etc., the upstairs room will be closed.

Clubhouse Rentals - For all rentals and scheduling of the clubhouse or Hollister House, please contact Marge DeMay at 860-633-6599, Unit #90.

Greenhouse - Remember to water your plants. We are fortunate to have this amenity for protecting our plants. Check to see that your plants are labeled with your name and unit number. Happy Gardening !

Game Day – 2nd Monday, January 8th from 1 p.m. to 3pm in the Clubhouse. Bring your own games or we have games we will show you how to play. Sue and Emil Ostrowski are coordinating. 860-781-8026.

Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 at the Clubhouse. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to learn more, please call Carol Frederickson at 860-633-0158.

January book: The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See
February book: Lincoln's Last Trial by Dan Abrams.

Lark Submissions Please contact Gene Flynn at 860-212-7347 for more information on submitting articles and notices.

Garage rental wanted – Please contact Todd Blais
860-729-1430.

Camp Rental – Adirondack camp available for rent. Spring, summer or fall, 2020. For details, please contact Jack Raycroft at 860-633-1754

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

IMAGINEERS, LLC
635 Farmington Ave.
Hartford, CT 06105

Property Manager: Sheila Duncan
860-768-3419
Assistant Manager: Lauren Figge
860-768-3313

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Luther Weeks
860-918-2115

VICE PRESIDENT

Ed Litke
860-430-9611

SECRETARY

Connie Liscomb
860-659-7819

TREASURER

Larry Abbott
860-682-2543

DIRECTOR

Tom Lombardo
860-652-0090

DIRECTOR

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To Email Management staff or Board Member click on <https://tinyurl.com/MHillContacts>

BOARD MEETINGS

Monthly Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm in the Clubhouse.

Listening Session February 11 7pm at the clubhouse

THE NEXT MEETING

February 19th

1:30 PM

IN THE CLUBHOUSE

Current and previous meeting minutes can be found at www.meadowhill.net

Hard copy minutes are available at the clubhouse office one week following the meeting.

MEADOW HILL COMMITTEES

Advisory committees play an important role in Meadow Hill. They provide information and work that improves Meadow Hill beyond what the Board and Manager can do without assistance. If you would like to contribute to making Meadow Hill even better or if you feel your views or those of your area are not fully represented on a Committee, consider joining a committee. Here is a list of current committee chairs.



Amenities: OPEN

Budget: L. Abbott(C/L)

Nominating: L. Abbott(C/L)

Grounds: M. Proulx(C), C. Liscomb(L),

Trees: G. Flynn (C), T. Lombardo (L)

Stables: E. Lembo (C), E. Litke(L)

Social: S. O'Leary(C), L. Abbott(L)

Rental: M. DeMay (C), L. Weeks (L)

Communications: G. Flynn (C), L. Weeks (L)

Friends of the River: R. Bouchard (C), B. Kolwitz (C), L. Abbott(L)

Vegetable Garden: D. Fillion(C), L. Abbott(L)

Maintenance: L. Weeks (C), E. Litke(L)

Greenhouse: S. MacGregor(C), L. Weeks(L)

Rules: L. Weeks (C), L. Abbott & T. Lombardo (L)

Key: (C) – Chair, (L) – Liaison

REQUESTS AND REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Committees and Residents should submit agenda requests and reports to Imagineers 10 days before the monthly Board meeting.

To email Board Members or submit work orders refer to the MeadowHill.net.