

THE LARK

October 2020

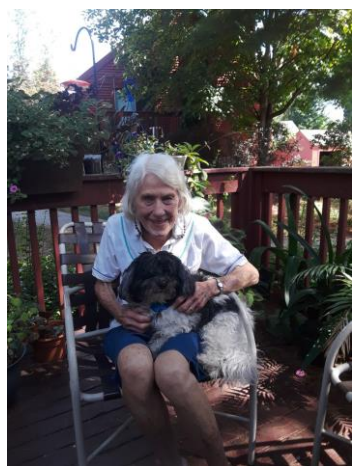
Meadowhill.net



SPECIAL NOTICE

Please be aware that the Executive Board voted on 9/16/20 to remove some trees on Hollister Way North, Hollister Way South, in front of Unit 174 and behind units 182/184. Due to the limited availability of our Tree Service Company, the Board employed a two-week notice period for residents' comments in lieu of the standard four-week review period. That notice period expires today, October 1, 2020 for comments to be submitted to Imagineers.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: SANDY MacGREGOR



Introducing Sandy MacGregor to the Meadow Hill community almost seems redundant, as she is well known to almost everyone. Though her dahlias are legendary, there is still probably a lot you don't know about one of MH's long-time residents.

She was born Sandra Marquet Trautwein near the University of Chicago in 1928, where her parents had moved from Louisville, KY so her dad could pursue a career as a commercial artist. Despite the onset of the Great Depression, Sandy's dad continued to work in advertising, which allowed the family to build a house in the suburbs. Growing up in Glencoe, IL, a bit north of Chicago on the shores of Lake Michigan, Sandy was fortunate to enjoy excellent schools, parks, forests and beaches. Not surprisingly, she pursued a host of activities: Girl Scout, junior lifeguard, choir singer, piano and performing arts ("Pirates of Penzance" in 8th grade!).

After graduating from New Trier HS, where her favorite course was a study of great books, Sandy enrolled at Oberlin College in Ohio. There, at the age of 18, she met her future husband, Rob Roy MacGregor during the first week of school in the church choir. Rob had been drafted into the Army right out of high school and went to Germany, where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, then stayed on for the Nuremberg Trials. After the war ended, Rob had enrolled at Oberlin under the G.I. Bill. Their first date was a violin and harpsichord concert. After 2 years at Oberlin, Sandy transferred to Northwestern University, and though her parents worried she would leave school to marry, that was not part of her plan, and she completed her college career with a K-9 teaching certificate. Following graduation from NWU in 1950 she began her teaching career in Lake Bluff, IL.

In 1951, five years after they met, Sandy married Rob. His work as a regional manager for Travelers meant that Sandy and Rob became, well... travelers! Over the years they called many states home: Illinois, California, Texas, both ends of New York (Buffalo and Albany), New Jersey, and finally Connecticut, which Sandy feels is the best of the bunch. Naturally, their children were all born in different states: Lauren in IL, Leslie in CA, and Rob in TX!

Sandy recalls that teaching first grade in those days was a lot different from today: larger class sizes, no classroom aides, and what it took to make paper copies (just ask her!)? Arriving in South Glastonbury from Paramus, NJ in 1976, the family settled into a “great house” backing Roaring Brook where their golden retrievers loved to swim. Though she left her teaching career behind in Paramus, Sandy continued to lead a very active life in Glastonbury, where she engaged in the church choir of the South Congregational Church, the Hill and Dale Garden Club, the Town Library Board, book sales and Land Heritage Conservation. She also enjoyed participating in an art study group for many years.

In retirement, Sandy and Rob enjoyed vacations in New Hampshire and Maine with children and grandchildren, hiking in Switzerland, and trips to Scotland, England, France and Austria. More recent trips with her daughters have been to Italy, Germany, the Rhine River, Costa Rica, and Cuba.

Sandy and Rob moved to Meadow Hill in 2000 and enjoyed being close to churches and stores until Rob passed away suddenly in 2013. During her 20 years in unit 288, Sandy has continued to contribute to the richness of life at MH, at various times serving on the Board, chairing the Grounds Committee, and beautifying the grounds with her gardening prowess.

Today, Sandy remains a staunch environmentalist. She fondly recalls visiting a huge game park in South Africa with Rob, where the animals were unafraid of people because “no one had ever shot at them.” She wryly remembers that “the only thing fenced in was the humans!” In fact, though she is weathering the current pandemic well enough, one of her concerns is the amount of plastic and packaging being generated through the delivery of online orders, and she encourages everyone to do their part to recycle, preserve the environment, and take climate change seriously. She believes what is needed today is for more people to accept responsibility, both for the environment and for stopping the coronavirus. She looks forward to the end of the pandemic and being able to socialize more and get to know one another. In the meantime, Sandy remains upbeat and practical, and continues to love birding (esp. the rose-breasted grosbeak), gardening around her unit, walking her dog (Kailey the Havanese), and of course, growing those wonderful dahlias down by the river!

JOHN VOLLINGER CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!



Please plan to join us for a COVID-safe
Driving and Walking Parade
 on October 20th at 3:00 PM.
 We'll drive and walk-by John's unit, stopping to sing
 Happy Birthday.
 Balloons to be provided.
 Masks required.
 No food or presentations.
 Watch for an upcoming flyer for more info.

POLICE ALERT



Glastonbury Police Department has seen a significant increase in auto break-in and theft; they encourage that all cars be kept locked and that residents should not hesitate to call GPD if they see or hear anything unusual, particularly at night.

KEY DATES

October 4 – National Taco Day

October 5 – World Habitat Day

October 20 – John Vollinger's 100th Birthday!!!

October 12 – Indigenous People's Day

October 21 – Board Meeting

October 31 – Halloween

GROUNDS COMMITTEE UPDATE



With much of Connecticut suffering a severe drought this summer, it was a challenging season for planting projects. Nonetheless, some of the spring plantings have come through in good shape, such as the three new Eastern redbud trees near the tennis courts, the snow fountain weeping cherry and grasses by the clubhouse, and the sloped area by parking lot K on Hollister North. Fall planting projects are now in the works, and will include updating the beds around the electric boxes along Hollister South, and placing colorful fall mums in several areas.

A couple of reminders as we get into the time for fall cleanup. First, if you do your own pruning/trimming, you are responsible for removing the waste. You are welcome to bring it to the dump area

near the Maintenance shed, but please bring it to the back of the dump area; don't pile it by the gate or bag up the clippings. Second, Board approval is required for any project that involves removing or planting shrubs, bushes or trees. Thanks from the Grounds Committee and Maintenance staff!

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS OFFER ENTERTAINMENT AND ENRICHMENT

As the weather turns cooler, and we spend more time inside, there are many online resources available for entertainment, information and personal enrichment. Both the Welles-Turner Memorial Library and the Riverfront Community Center provide an array of virtual programming. A computer with internet, email address, and Zoom account are needed.

Riverfront Community Center

The summer/fall issue of *The Caring Tree* newsletter lists many programs. Here is a sampling of some that are still available in October (page numbers refer to the applicable page in *The Caring Tree*):

- Video tutorials on how to sign up and use Zoom (page 2)
- Virtual concerts with local musicians (page 4)
- Virtual health talks such as *Dimensions of Wellness* and *Storm Preparedness* (page 5)
- Tuesday movies on Zoom with discussion following (page 6)
- Links to virtual concerts, musicals, museum tours and more (page 7)



Find more information about these programs and many other resources in *The Sharing Tree*:
<https://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/home/showdocument?id=31783>

Welles-Turner Library

Topics range from quirky historical facts to cooking lessons to musical programs to book discussions. The October virtual programs for adults include the following:

- Thursday, Oct 1, 6:30-7:30 pm: That's Weird! History is strange ... Take a second look
 - Monday, Oct 5, 6:00-7:15 pm: Homemade Ravioli
 - Thursday, Oct 15, 6:00-7:30 pm: Black Bears in Connecticut
 - Tuesday, Oct 20, 6:00-7:00 pm: Acoustic Guitar – Virtual Concert for Adults
 - Thursday, Oct 29, 6:00-7:00 pm: Books on Tap – Virtual Gathering for Adults
- 21+



Registration for each event is required. For more information about the programs, registration information, and a tutorial on setting up a Zoom account:

<https://www.eventkeeper.com/mars/xpages/W/WTML/ekp.cfm?curOrg=WTML&CFID=4483675&CFTOKEN=8ec6c5b586f92e95-1E9C01E2-D4AE-528A-5350D8B9BAF5E8BE>

VOTING IN THE AGE OF COVID

Like everything else this year, election 2020 will look a little different than normal, due to the novel coronavirus and the threat of COVID-19. If you are unsure about how to vote safely in the November 3 general election, here are some tips and resources to help guide you:



Registration

If you are not registered to vote, you can find information on how to register online, by mail, or in person at the Voter Registration page on the Town of Glastonbury website at <https://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/departments/department-directory-l-z/registrar-of-voters/voter-registration> or you can register in person at the Registrar's office at Town Hall.

If you're not sure if you are registered, you can check your registration status by clicking on the Voter Lookup button at <http://www.govote.ct.gov/>

Voting Options

In Person: If you are registered, you can vote in person on Nov 3 at your normal polling place. You can find your polling place here: <https://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/departments/department-directory-l-z/registrar-of-voters/where-do-i-vote>. All Meadow Hill addresses are in Voting District 7, and the polling place is the Academy Building at 2143 Main Street, Glastonbury. Polling places are open from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm.

By Mail/Absentee Ballot: According to the website of the Connecticut Secretary of State, "All voters are eligible to vote by absentee ballot in the general election held on November 3, 2020 due to the COVID-19... Just check the COVID-19 box on the application." (<https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Voting>).

The Town of Glastonbury website explains that the state is automatically sending an absentee ballot application to all registered voters for the November election, and you should have received it by mid-September. The actual ballots become available Oct 2 and will be mailed to voters who submitted an application. Full details on the process for mail in/absentee voting are available at <https://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/departments/department-directory-l-z/town-clerk/absentee-ballot-information>.

Regardless of our political affiliations or candidate preferences, we are all neighbors and citizens, and we encourage everyone to participate in choosing our local and national representatives.

DO'S AND DON'T'S OF MASK HYGIENE

Since there is a required use of face masks, for protection from the Covid-19 virus, here are some tips to keep them clean when eating, drinking, during bathroom visits or for any need to take it off or put it down.

DO

- Place it down on a clean paper towel face down, with the ties away from the inside of the mask.
- Place it in a paper bag the same way.

DON'T -

- Put your mask under your mouth or chin, even to eat or drink.
- Hang it on your elbow or from your ear. Droplets can be picked up from your skin.



To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow. -Audrey Hepburn



GARDENER REMINDERS

The gardening season is coming to a close. As you finish-up with your plot, here are a few things to remember:

- All stakes need to be removed
- Any ties, cages or wire need to be removed
- All black ground covers need to be removed
- We need to clean up items that will interfere with the roto-tiller next year

FROM THE GREENHOUSE COMMITTEE



Thinking Fall, the greenhouse welcomes your tender perennials. Please label containers with name and unit number, and limit quantity to 3 large or 4 small. Make sure plants are insect-free. Watering is your responsibility.
Sandy MacGregor, Greenhouse chair

MEADOW HILL RESIDENT NOTES

Clubhouse and Hollister House – Closed until further notice due to the coronavirus.

Clubhouse and Hollister House Rentals - Rentals discontinued until further notice due to the coronavirus.

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

Game Day – Cancelled. Usually held on the first Wednesday of the month from 1-3pm at Hollister House is cancelled until further notice due to coronavirus.

Book Club – Cancelled. Usually held on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 at the Clubhouse is cancelled until further notice due to Covid19. We will be recommending two books a month for folks to read based on recommendations from book club members.

This month's books are:

- Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. 2017, 338 pages
- Chances Are... by Richard Russo. 2019, 302 pages

Bingo – Cancelled.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

IMAGINEERS, LLC
635 Farmington Ave.
Hartford, CT 06105

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Luther Weeks
860-918-2115

VICE PRESIDENT
Toni Dolan
860-918-7069

SECRETARY
Connie Liscomb
860-659-7819

TREASURER
Larry Abbott
860-682-2543

DIRECTOR
Sandy O'Leary
860-916-0740

DIRECTOR
unfilled

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.

THE NEXT MEETING
October 21st

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

Meetings will be electronic.

1:30 PM

Hard copy minutes are no longer available at the clubhouse due to the coronavirus.

Information on how to connect will be forthcoming from Imagineers.

Meeting Will be Electronic

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. Below are the committee chairs, liaisons from the Board and Committee members. Let's all thank these community members for their work to make Meadow Hill a great place to call home.



Budget:

Larry Abbott, (chair)

Communications:

Gene Flynn, (Chair), Luther Weeks, (Liaison), Mike Proulx, Denise Weeks, Norma Flynn, Elaine Lembo, Linda Fillion

Grounds:

Mike Proulx, (Chair), Connie Liscomb, (Liaison), Jack Raycroft, Todd Blais, Norm Gordon, Kim Trela, Vicky Germani

Nominating:

Larry Abbott, (Chair), Connie Liscomb

Social:

Sandy O'Leary, (Chair), Hazel Brimley, Dick Brimley, Denise Weeks

Rules:

Luther Weeks, (Chair)

Rental:

Marge Demay (Chair); Luther Weeks (liaison)

Stables:

Elaine Lembo, (Chair), Larry Abbott, (Liaison), Nancy Roberts

Trees:

Gene Flynn, (Chair), Toni Dolan, (Liaison), Roger Bouchard, Bob Kolwicz,

Friends of the River:

Roger Bouchard, (Chair), Larry Abbott, (Liaison), Donna Goselin, Bob Kolwicz, Lynn Willsey, Beverly Willsey, Jane Marcin, Daren Hill, Marge DeMay

Maintenance and Amenities:

Luther Weeks, (Chair), Vin Liscomb, Bob Kolwicz

Greenhouse:

Sandy MacGregor, (Chair), Luther Weeks, (Liaison)

Vegetable Garden

Dave Fillion, (Chair), Larry Abbott, (Liaison)

Kayak Platform:

Toni Dolan (C), Larry Abbott, Dave Fillion, Jim Fuda

