

# THE LARK

November 2020

**Meadowhill.net**



## MEET MEADOW HILL BOARD MEMBER – TONI DOLAN



In the interview to prepare for this article, Toni Dolan humbly stated that she has not had as impressive a life as the other Lark resident profiles we have done. And then she went ahead and described a rich, diverse and rewarding life and career where she did nothing but describe the perfect skills and abilities that she brings to her role as MH Executive Board Vice President. You be the judge as to whether it's impressive.

Toni and Ray have lived in Glastonbury for 45 years, mostly in the "College Town" area where all the streets are named after colleges. Once they were empty nesters and no longer needing a four-bedroom colonial, they moved to Meadow Hill, first renting a unit and then buying Unit 10 about five years ago. Parents of two, they are proud grandparents of six grandsons and one granddaughter. Not surprisingly, these grandparents are highly involved in their family members' lives.

Toni may not have realized how public service-oriented she was when she took her first jobs with the Town of Glastonbury in Public Works and taking minutes for both the Town Council and the Sewer Commission. She has since worked on the Democratic Town Committee and was appointed to work with Youth and Family Services, the Sewer Commission and Planning & Zoning. While she later ran unsuccessfully for Town Council, she was appointed to fill out the remaining year of a Council member unable to complete his term. So, she made it to the Glastonbury Town Council too; a chip off the old block for the daughter of a former Mayor of New London.

At one point, Toni was a Democratic Coordinator for Congresswoman Barbara Kennelly, who appointed her to a Regional Advisory Council at Manchester Community College. She sat on and co-chaired this Council for 25 years, being a regional liaison to the community. Being associated with MCC, she felt inspired to obtain her college degree as an adult – an Associates from MCC and a Bachelors in Psychology from Trinity College. Think about how brave it was to be an adult-learner going to school with most students younger than her children!

Newly armed with a degree, Toni set out to work in the Non-Profit sector, finding a perfect fit as the Executive Director at the Beth-El Center in Milford. This is a multi-faith-sponsored housing shelter and soup kitchen, where she stayed for 12 years. When she retired three years ago, Milford honored her with a "Toni Dolan Day" and dedicated a garden to her at the Beth-El Center. Not bad for someone who grew up living over a funeral home and securing her college education later in life. Pretty darn good, actually.

Elected in June this year to our Board, Toni has already brought her problem-solving skills to good use but believes that she is still on a steep learning curve - about the community, how a condominium association operates and how our Board functions. She feels blessed to learn from all her Board peers. Outside of her family and her career, Toni is a lector at St. Patrick/St. Anthony Church and enjoys reading, golfing, walking, auditing classes at her alma mater and Community Center exercise. Please thank Toni for her service to Meadow Hill and let her know if she's impressive to you.



**Due to a recent theft of outgoing U.S mail in the area, either place outgoing mail in mailboxes at the post office or put it in your mailbox just before the mailman's usual scheduled arrival, not earlier. Do not leave it out overnight.**

## NEWS FROM OUR TREASURER

The Budget Committee has worked very hard over the past month with four meetings taking place via Zoom. These meetings were open to all unit owners for the first time ever and there were, at times, from 4 or 5 up to about a dozen owner attendees. The main topics were the reserve analysis, the operating budget and committee requests.



With the dedication and great collaboration of all the committee members, we are close to a final budget to be sent to the Board for approval in November. The one area left to be evaluated and fine-tuned is the cost of the landscape contract, which expires with our current landscaper in December. Input is being taken from our Grounds committee, Friends of the River, our Maintenance Supervisor Darien, and committee members. Always of particular interest to many residents is the springtime mulching and we are figuring out how to best cover this in a new contract. The important idea with mulch is to get it done quickly and without owners having to haul and spread the mulch.

Always with every budget, we have kept in mind a balance between a budget increase and the necessity to maintain our grounds and amenities in superior condition, as this keeps our property values up and keeps Meadow Hill in demand as a 55+ option for buyers.

I'm sure any of the budget committee would answer questions or receive comments from you. The members are Larry Abbott, Connie Liscomb, Sandy O'Leary, Toni Dolan, and Luther Weeks. A December Owners Meeting will be announced soon for the 2021 Budget vote. By Larry Abbott

## GLASTONBURY HAPPENINGS



Did you know you can sign up to receive notices from the town on a number of things including the following:

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Activities for Age 50+     | Dog License Notifications/Reminders |
| Senior Activities Calendar | Wellness Clinics                    |
| Senior Sharing Tree        | Elections                           |
| Flu Clinics                | Town Council Meetings               |
| Storm Updates              | Board and Commission Meetings       |

To receive notices, click [here](#) or go to <https://www.glastonbury-ct.gov/about-us/pr-communications/events-calendar/enotify>. Fill in your email information and check off the items you would like to receive notices on. It's that easy to stay in-the-know about everything Glastonbury.

During November, one town-sponsored event is worth noting – **Hazardous Waste Disposal Day** will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 324 Olcott St. in Manchester from 8-1. Use this link to read about COVID restrictions: Go to <http://www.earth911.com> for other recycling info.

## GLASTONBURY IN THE FALL



## IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR FALL FOLIAGE RIDES

Fall foliage rides don't have to be over. November is a beautiful time of year for day trips, even if you don't get out of the car. Here are some popular ones to consider to help relieve boredom and generate some smiles in the car:

<https://www.visitconnecticut.com/state/foliage/#bottom>

Did you know that Connecticut has both a **Wine Trail** and a **Chocolate Trail**? (Really, a map of well-known chocolate shops) Here is information on both:

<https://ctwine.com>

<https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/connecticut/chocolate-trail-ct/>

And here is another fun trail – **Outdoor Wall Mural Trail**. If you are an art lover or just like the unusual, check it out!

<https://www.ctvisit.com/articles/instagrammable-outdoor-murals-in-ct>

Finally, if you are getting a little braver, several entertainment houses are open with performances this month, having limitations on inside density of people: Palace Theater (Waterbury), Hartford Civic Center, The Bushnell, Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods. There are plenty of outdoor activities also available:

[www.ctvisit.com/activities/31things-to-do-connecticut-november](http://www.ctvisit.com/activities/31things-to-do-connecticut-november)

And if you are a food lover and don't mind venturing indoors, the Griswold Inn has reopened its famous Hunt Breakfast. Yum.



## PRE-WINTER CHECKLIST – GOOD TO BE PREPARED!!



- Winterize your car before bad weather hits - antifreeze, tires and windshield wipers checked and changed if necessary.
- Remember your cell phone when you drive in bad weather, and always let someone know where you are going and when you should be expected back if leaving your home for extended periods.
- Avoid driving on icy roads, and be especially careful driving on overpasses or bridges. Consider alternate routes, even if it means driving a longer distance, if the more direct route is less safe. Often bigger roads are cleared of snow better than smaller roads.

- Stock your car with basic emergency supplies such as a First Aid Kit, Blanket, Emergency warm clothes, Booster cables, Windshield scraper, Small shovel, Rock salt or a bag of sand or cat litter (in case your wheels get stuck), Water and dried food or easy open food jars/cans, Map (if driving in new areas).
- Check the batteries in the flashlight you keep in the car.
- Make sure you have warm gloves, mittens, scarves, hats, boots and coats for severe winter days. Now is the time to check inventory and replace if your older ones are worn or torn.
- Be prepared to dress in layers. Do you have enough warm inner layers like thermals for very cold days?
- Boots with non-skid soles work best in the snow.

Be proactive now, and thankful later that you are prepared!



# Suggested Emergency Food Supplies

Consider the following things when putting together your emergency food supplies:

- Store at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Choose foods your family will eat.
- Remember any special dietary needs.
- Avoid foods that will make you thirsty.

The following items are suggested when selecting emergency food supplies. You may already have many of these on hand.

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, vegetables and a manual can opener
- Protein or fruit bars
- Dry cereal or granola
- Peanut butter
- Dried fruit
- Canned juices
- Non-perishable pasteurized milk
- High energy foods
- Food for infants
- Comfort/stress foods



## Do:

- Keep food in covered containers.
- Keep cooking and eating utensils clean.
- Discard any food that has come into contact with contaminated flood water.
- Discard any food that has been at room temperature for two hours or more.
- Discard any food that has an unusual odor, color or texture.
- Use ready-to-feed formula. If you must mix infant formula use bottled water, or boiled as a last resort.

## Don't:

- Eat foods from cans that are swollen, dented or corroded, even though the product may look safe to eat.
- Eat any food that looks or smells abnormal, even if the can looks normal.
- Let garbage accumulate inside, both for fire and sanitation reasons.

# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



**Meadow Hill Salutes  
John Vollinger**  
On the Occasion of his  
**100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**  
They say the first 100 years  
are the toughest,  
so the best is yet to come!  
**Congratulations  
John!**



KEY DATES		
1- End of Daylight Savings – change clocks 3 - Election Day 5 - National Doughnut Day 13 - Friday the 13 <sup>th</sup>	17 - National Take a Hike Day 18 - Meadow Hill Board Meeting (zoom) 26 - Thanksgiving 17 - Black Friday Shopping (online)	
MEADOW HILL RESIDENT NOTES		
<p><b>Welcome New Resident</b> – Mary Anne Costerella, Unit 133, phone number 860-918-3949.</p> <p><b>Moved</b> -Judy Gregg has moved to Unit 126.</p> <p><b>Greenhouse</b> - The greenhouse welcomes your tender perennials. Please label containers with name and unit number, and limit quantity to 3 large or 4 small plants. Make sure plants are insect-free and watering is your responsibility. Sandy MacGregor, Chair.</p> <p><b>Lark Submissions</b> Please contact Gene Flynn at 860-212-7347 for more information on submitting articles and notices.</p> <p><b>Clubhouse and Hollister House</b> – Closed until further notice due to the coronavirus.</p> <p><b>Clubhouse and Hollister House Rentals</b> - Rentals discontinued until further notice due to the coronavirus.</p>	<p><b>Book Club – Cancelled.</b> 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.</p> <p>This month's books are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>The Lake Wobegon Virus</u> by Garrison Keillor, 2020 (224 pages)</li> <li>• <u>The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration</u>, by Isabel Wilkinson, 2010 (539 pages).</li> </ul> <p><b>Game Day – Cancelled.</b> Usually held on the first Wednesday of the month from 1-3pm at Hollister House is cancelled until further notice due to coronavirus.</p> <p><b>Bingo – Cancelled.</b></p>	
MANAGEMENT COMPANY		
<p><b>IMAGINEERS, LLC</b> 635 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105</p>	<p>Property Manager: Sheila Duncan 860-768-3419 Asst: Property Manager: Lauren Figge 860-768-3313</p>	
BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
<p><b>PRESIDENT</b> Luther Weeks 860-918-2115</p> <p><b>TREASURER</b> Larry Abbott 860-682-2543</p>	<p><b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Toni Dolan 860-918-7069</p> <p><b>DIRECTOR</b> Sandy O'Leary 860-916-0740</p>	<p><b>SECRETARY</b> Connie Liscomb 860-659-7819</p> <p><b>DIRECTOR</b> unfilled</p>
To Email Management staff or Board Member click on <a href="https://tinyurl.com/MHillContacts">https://tinyurl.com/MHillContacts</a>		
BOARD MEETINGS		
<p>Monthly Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm.</p> <p>Meetings will be electronic.</p> <p>Information on how to connect will be forthcoming from Imagineers.</p>	<p><b>THE NEXT MEETING</b> November 18th  1:30 PM  Meeting Will be Electronic</p>	<p>Current and previous meeting minutes can be found at <a href="http://www.meadowhill.net">www.meadowhill.net</a></p> <p>Hard copy minutes are no longer available at the clubhouse due to the coronavirus.</p>