

THE LARK

December 2021

Meadowhill.net



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays and wishes for a joyful and peaceful holiday season!

As 2021 comes to a close, I thought it would be interesting to provide a recap of what the Board of Directors has been working on during the past year. It has been challenging, as we continued to deal with the COVID virus and the resulting restrictions on the use of our amenities, how to protect ourselves and others, and how to reopen our amenities safely in phases.

The year began under the leadership of Luther Weeks, with the support and assistance of the Vice President, Toni Dolan, Secretary Connie Liscomb, and Treasurer Larry Abbott, and director, Sandy O'Leary. During this time, January to June, the board:

- Engaged our attorney, Scott Sandler, to begin the process of reviewing and revising the 1995 governing documents of the Meadow Hill Association, Inc., namely, the By-laws and Declaration.
- Successfully negotiated a new landscaping contract at a cost consistent with our budgeted line item with the stipulation that this rate would continue for next year as well.
- Engaged the services of Legal Title Services, LLC, to perform a Title Search which confirmed the boundaries of the public pedestrian right of way as recorded in the Glastonbury Land Records.
- Established a COVID Reopening of Amenities Committee that developed a plan allowing for each amenity to reopen in phases based upon the latest CDC and State DPH guidelines.

Luther Weeks graciously donated two saplings from the historic Charter Oak tree in Hartford which were planted in two areas in the complex. Eventually, plaques will be placed on them identifying the history and acknowledging Luther's generosity.

In June, a board election was held. Newly elected members, Jim Fuda and Angelo DiMarco joined Connie Liscomb, Sandy O'Leary, Toni Dolan. Luther Weeks was elected for another term. Larry Abbott decided not to seek another term. Subsequently, Election of Officers was held, and Jim Fuda was elected Vice President; Connie Liscomb, Treasurer; Luther Weeks, Secretary; Angelo DiMarco and Sandy O'Leary as Directors. I was elected to serve as President. During this time:

- Board committees were restructured and a board liaison was appointed to each one. Budget, Communications, Grounds, Trees, Nominating, Social, Maintenance, and Rental, each provide vital assistance to the board and protect the assets of the association. Friends of the River decided to "retire" after eight years of hands-on work to beautify the north slope with plantings and to protect these plantings from encroachment with a plan for spraying and removing the persistent fragmite.
- The employee health and dental insurance plans were reviewed and resulted in significant savings for the association while continuing to provide ample health and dental services to Darien and Michael. The staff mobile phone plans were also restructured, again resulting in savings for MH.
- A presentation by the Glastonbury Police Department Community Service Officer Magrey and his team was held that provided personal and safety guidelines for our residents.
- The Chair of Hospitality, Linda Fillion, retired after many years of greeting new community members. Nancy Maloney stepped up and agreed to continue this tradition. Our thanks to both.
- Ongoing discussion and review, informational meetings, and public comment at board meetings continued to inform the board as the governing document process continued. The final drafts have been mailed out and a ballot form is to be returned by March 31, 2022.

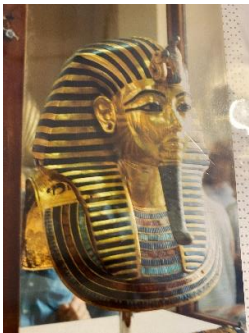
WHY DO WE LOVE TO TRAVEL?



According to Rick Steves, American travel writer and television personality, “We travel as tourists to have experiences, to have fun. Going to new places invigorates us. It’s exciting. On the road, we get more out of our lives – seeing our first Michelangelo, exploring our first castle, savoring something straight from the sea, reaching for high altitude thrills, being enthralled.”

This is how I have felt for many years. Travel got me to see and experience things I would never see or experience staying at home. I got the travel bug many years ago and one of the first places I travelled to was Egypt.

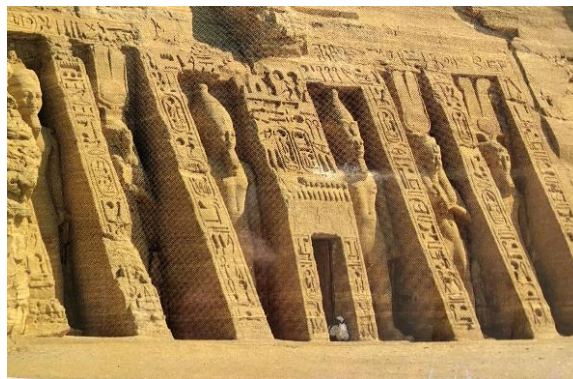
In September of 1997 Egypt had a reputation for being unsafe. In 1993 a tourist bus had been bombed in front of the Cairo Museum by Muslim terrorists. My friend and I decided we really, really wanted to see Egypt so we signed up for a private tour of the best tourist sites in the country. We travelled in a van with our tour guide, a driver, and an armed escort sitting in the passenger seat. We were too excited to see any danger and it was a very reputable travel company. Our first stop once we landed was to go to lunch at a restaurant on the outskirts of Cairo. I remember the feeling as if it was yesterday, having lunch and looking out the window to see the three pyramids of Giza off in the distance. I was in total awe and I was hooked. On our visit to the pyramids we learned that they are 4500 years old, one of the seven wonders of the world. We were able to walk up a stairs into the main pyramid and enter a small room housing a sarcophagus. This is also where the Sphinx is located.



From Cairo, we flew to Luxor, Egypt to experience the Abu Simbel temples built by King Ramses in the 13th century along with the temple of Queen Nefertari. These are the temples that had to be moved due to the building of the Aswan Dam and Lake Nasser in 1968. The temples consist of huge images of King Ramses carved out of the mountainside. In photos, people looked miniature next to the temples. The tomb of King Tutankhamun (better known as King Tut) is located in Luxor in the Valley of the Kings. It was mind blowing to go into the tomb and see all of the carvings (still in brightly colored paint) and all of the other ancient priceless artifacts that were left there to aid the boy king on his journey to the afterlife.

From here, we took a week-long cruise down the Nile River, with otherworldly sights along the way, many temples and cities, farmers tending their farms along the fertile banks of the Nile and tending to their oxen.

We saw many other ancient sites as part of our trip and I



can still remember wanting to pinch myself to be sure I was really there. This was not Disneyworld.

Since that time, I have travelled to many, many wonderful places in the world and don’t want to stop until I just can’t do it anymore. **By Norma Flynn**

KEY DATES

1 – World Aids Day
10-18 – Hanukkah
13 – Annual Meeting
15 – Board Meeting

21 – Winter Solstice
25 – Christmas Day
26 – Kwanzaa
31 – New Year’s Eve

FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Please be sure to contact Imagineers LLC., with any changes to the residents and/or owner(s) of your condominium unit. This does allow the Hospitality Chairperson, Nancy Maloney, to be informed so that she can welcome our new residents; however, in addition to this, we are required to report any changes to the State Department of Revenue Services as per the information stated below.

The State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services requires associations to file a Cert-103 annually. The purpose of the Cert-103 is for a condominium association to establish, for a particular calendar year, the percentage of condominium units that are not owner-occupied (i.e. investor owned). This calculated percentage is then used to determine the percentage of charges for services for real property that are subject to sales and use taxes.

Please provide the name of the owner(s) and "occupiers" of the unit if there is a change. This certificate needs to be completed and sent on or before January 1 each year. If you make it a practice to send any changes to Imagineers, LLC., as they happen, we will be able to be in compliance with the state regarding this requirement.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation. Toni Dolan, President

BUDGET UPDATE



When the Meadow Hill budget is approved by the board it will be sent out to all homeowners for review. An annual meeting of all residents will be held on Monday December 13th at 7:00PM at the clubhouse to vote on the budget. The budget committee will be available to answer any questions. Snow date will Thursday December 16th. Your vote counts.

KINDNESS KORNER

I am writing to thank the committee on the Lark for all their time and effort spent publishing our association newsletter. With small resources, they are able to produce something that has interesting and diverse subjects and keeps us informed about community interests and events. It helps to keep us all connected. Also, the photographs are just wonderful! We have been very fortunate over the years to have people in Meadow Hill work on various committees and on our Board of Directors. Thanks to all of them for the excellent hard work. **By Jane Marcin.**

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

During the holiday season, we like to express our sincere appreciation to Darien and Mike for going above and beyond for us this year.

You may express your gratitude with a holiday gift in either of the following ways:

- **Contribute toward a group Holiday Bonus:** Please make checks payable to Meadow Hill, Inc with the notation "holiday bonus". The checks should be mailed to Sheila Duncan at Imagineers, 635 Farmington Ave, Hartford, CT no later than Friday, December 10.
- **Contribute individually,** by making a personal gift to them.



CONDOLENCES



Condolences to Nancy Roberts. We sadly report that Dutchess, one of our horse residents of Meadow Hill, passed away on Saturday, November 13th. More commonly referred to as "Dutch", she was 27 years old. We enjoyed having this American Quarter horse as a fellow resident for the past six years. Just think about how many of us have stopped and talked to her over the years. Our sympathy goes out to Nancy Roberts of Unit 15 and to the residents and friends who have provided Nancy with support.

OF CHRISTMAS PAST

Though COVID again prevents us from hosting our usual holiday celebration in the clubhouse, we hope these photos and favorite recipes from years past will get you in the holiday spirit!



Sweet and Sour Meatballs from Kathy Collins:

1 large package frozen bite-size Italian Style Meatballs
1 jar grape jelly
1 bottle Chili Sauce
Put the meatballs, jelly and chili sauce into a crock pot. Set the pot on low heat and cook for four hours.



Swedish Meatballs from Gerri Whitmore

1 lb. ground beef	1 small onion chopped fine
¼ cup bread cubes	1 egg slightly beaten
1 tsp salt	1 cup purchased chili sauce
¼ tsp ginger	1 cup purchased grape jelly
¼ tsp nutmeg	

In a medium bowl, combine first seven ingredients. Mix well. Shape into ¾ inch balls, then in skillet brown well on both sides. Add 1 cup chili sauce and 8 oz grape jelly. Keep warm in chafing dish. Serve on tooth picks.



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!

Help us celebrate long-time resident Gerry Whittemore's 100 Birthday!



Please plan to join us for a COVID-safe
Driving and Walking Parade
on January 2nd starting at 3:30 PM.
We'll drive and walk-by Gerry's unit 318,
stopping to sing Happy Birthday and
share a Birthday Cupcake.
Masks required.
Watch for an upcoming flyer for more info



COMMUNITY EVENTS



For **Community Center Events**
check the [Sharing Tree](#).

For **Library Events**
check their [event page](#).



2021 South Glastonbury Holiday House Tour

Back by popular demand the Holiday House Tour, sponsored by the Historical Society of Glastonbury, will once again be an awesome and festive experience.

Enjoy the beauty of these gems decorated for the season!

Reduced admission is \$30 if ticket is purchased at the Senior Center (Checks or Cash only).

12:00: First Shuttle Bus from RCC to House Tour Route: High, Tryon and Water streets.

Please sign up for shuttle service ahead of time. (Schedule will be provided that day)

Checks should be made payable to the Glastonbury Historical Society.

Saturday, December 4, 2021, 12 pm – 4 pm; snow date: December 5, 2021 12 pm - 4 pm

OLD MAN WINTER IS UPON US!

When we expect cold temperatures and accumulating snow PLEASE:

- Move your car away from the parking areas next to garages before the storm begins.
- Do not park in front of a garage door.
- Do not park in the three spaces in the island by the Clubhouse.
- Remove your entrance mat(s) as they can be drawn into the snow blower and cause damage or shred your mat. After the storm ends, when plowing and snow blowing are completed, you may replace your entrance mat.
- Turn on roof-heating cables (if you have them) when snow begins to fall. They can be turned off when the roof is clear of snow. Use of the cables reduces the risk of you and /or Meadow Hill suffering ice damage.
- Arrange to have roof-heating cables turned on if you will be away during potentially snowy weather.
- In very cold weather open cabinet doors under sinks on outside walls to let in warmer air.
- On very cold nights, let faucets drip to keep pipes from freezing.
- If you're able to do it, turn off the water valve to outside faucets.
- Don't forget to water plants in the greenhouse.

GREENHOUSE UPDATE

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, Chairperson.



MEADOW HILL RESIDENT NOTES

Condolences: to the family and friends of Kulli Verravas, recently of Meadow Hill.
Clubhouse: Clubhouse now reopened. See posted rules.
Hollister House: – remains closed until further notice due to the coronavirus.
Crafts and Needlework – If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and enjoy giving items to those in need, please contact Linda Fillion at 860-559-5504 for details. Items such as baby hats, booties, lap robes and prayer shawls are really appreciated by Middlesex Hospital.

Book Club – Cancelled. This month's book recommendation is:
I am Malala: The Girl who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban. By Malala Yousafzai.
Lark Submissions Please contact Gene Flynn at 860-212-7347 for more information on submitting articles and notices.
Bingo – Cancelled.
Game Day – Cancelled.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

IMAGINEERS, LLC
 635 Farmington Ave.
 Hartford, CT 06105

Property Manager: Sheila Duncan
 860-768-3419
 Asst: Property Manager: Danielle Merritt
 860-768-3419

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
 Toni Dolan
 860-918-7069

VICE PRESIDENT
 Jim Fuda
 860-729-0354

SECRETARY
 Luther Weeks
 860-918-2115

TREASURER
 Connie Liscomb
 860-659-7819

DIRECTOR
 Sandy O'Leary
 860-916-0740

DIRECTOR
 Angelo DiMarco
 860-402-2242

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
 December 15th

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

Location information will be forthcoming from Imagineers

1:30 PM

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

November Lark Editor: Norma Flynn; Lark Designer: Denise Weeks