The Hidden Ridge GEM

July 2014

Issue 14-03



The President's Message

Dear Fellow Hidden Ridgers,

Our summer is in full swing – The pool is open, there are activities in the Clubhouse and Hidden Ridgers are taking advantage and enjoying our "Jewel in the Catskills." We enjoyed our Welcome Back Breakfast in June and our July 4th Dinner and Show were a success.

By this time you should have received the notice of the Annual Meeting on August 3, 2014. Elections for four directors will be held on August 3, 2014. Those candidates who were nominated or filed letters of intent are featured in this edition of the GEM. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor on July 20th at the "Meet the Candidates" meeting. In addition to electing the four Board members, owners are asked to vote on proposed changes to the sales and rental rues. These are in an attempt to generate more revenue for the Association. Bagels and coffee will be served at the Annual Meeting. It is important that each of you exercise your right to vote. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, you can send in an absentee ballot or appoint someone as your proxy. Details are included with the election packet that is in this mailing. This is your community!

In the last issue of the GEM, mention was made of asking our residents who attended Saturday evening shows to pay \$3. After much discussion and consideration, the Board has decided not to institute that charge. We have covered it by reducing the number of paid staff on Saturday night from two to one and eliminating snacks on the tables during the shows. Of course we will provide soft drinks, coffee and cake. You are encouraged to bring your own snacks to munch on during the show. We welcome those who are celebrating a special event to "host" the dessert portion of our evening by contacting Karen Seltzer.

Included in this issue is an insert that the Board would appreciate you completing so that we can get a better feel for your wants and needs. Please complete the survey and return it to Lenny Kirschenbaum.

I want to remind the community that the Board of Directors is made up of **volunteers** who work together to make this a viable community. We spend **our** time servicing the community in a variety of capacities. We are rarely thanked for our time and effort. Instead of an

From the Editor

Dear Fellow Hidden Ridgers,

It may not be Thanksgiving Day in November, but in my heart it is time to speak out about how grateful I am for many things and people in my life. So first, I want to thank Bonnie Siegel, my wife, my life partner, your HOA president, for all the things she does to make my life and all of yours easier. Next, I want to thank the other Board members for their personal sacrifices in making Hidden Ridge a place where I want to continue to live. They spend time away from the loved ones and their own sense of enjoyment in order to ensure the rest of us are enjoying our time here. Next, I want to thank the non-board members who have always stepped up to the plate to lend a hand, to offer their services, time and expertise to making Hidden Ridge a better community.

Now to some personal thanks to people who are moving on and will not continue with me on my journey here in Monticello. I will forever be grateful to Marie, my physical therapist at Barry Scheinfeld's Catskill Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine for helping me to feel good enough to complete not only one but three whole dances on July 5, 2014 after so many years of having to stop halfway through. Marie is moving out of the area and my hope for her life in her new home is fulfilling and prosperous for her and her family. I also would like to thank my manicurist, Natasha, at Nelda's Cutting Edge for taking such good care of my hands and feet last summer and this - and for the gorgeous artwork she has created on my fingertips! I wish her all the best as she goes off to college.

Last but not least, I want to thank the residents of Hidden Ridge, past and present, owners and renters, who have come in to my life and made it richer. I have been fortunate enough throughout my life to make long-term friends. This holds true for this latter part of my life as well. So, lastly, thank you to all the wonderful friends I have made here at Hidden Ridge for now and ever more.

Linda

occasional "thank you," some people constantly complain or criticize us about one thing or another. I would like to remind you, as the late Maya Angelou said: "If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."

Bonnie

2013-2014 Board of Directors

Bonnie Siegel President 791-6056 917-969-9646

Lenny Kirschenbaum V. Pres 794-3395

Karen Seltzer Secretary 794-2752 917-861-6291

Chuck Greenberg Treasurer 516-445-3845 Jerry Bassik Director 791-4273 Jill Friedman Director 305-213-4507

Ed Hertz Director 791-7209 352-242-0910

Hidden Ridge H.O.A. PO Box 976 Monticello, NY 12701

Patrol/Safety number: 845-794-8180

Hidden Ridge H.O.A. Committee Liaisons

AdvertisingChuck GreenbergAuditChuck GreenbergBeautificationChuck Greenberg

Clubhouse Karen Seltzer/Bonnie Siegel

Cul de Sac Liaisons Jill Friedman

EntertainmentBonnie Siegel/Karen SeltzerGrievancesBonnie Siegel/Lenny K.GEM/Web SiteBonnie Siegel/Jerry BassikInsurance CertificationBonnie Siegel/Jerry BassikInsurance MattersBonnie Siegel/Jerry Bassik

LegalBonnie SiegelLiaison to VeriaBonnie Siegel

Long Range Planning Bonnie Siegel/ Lenny K.

Maintenance Lenny K./Ed Hertz

Daily PoolJill Friedman/ Jerry BassikSafetyLenny KirschenbaumSales & RentalsEd Hertz/Lenny K.Sanitation & RecyclingLenny KirschenbaumSnow RemovalLenny Kirschenbaum

Social Karen Seltzer

Upcoming Events

Next Board Meeting: Sunday, July 13th Social Committee Meeting: TBA Please see the bulletin boards or website.



Want to announce something to our community? Call Linda and place an ad in the GEM.

Please call 917-747-8660 or email: bonsdiva@aol.com

DEADLINE for AUGUST ISSUE - July 20th

Important Reminder



President Bonnie Siegel reminds all homeowners that a current copy of your insurance certification is required to be on file with the HOA. This form should include the unit number as well as the effective dates of coverage. A copy of the Declarations page is acceptable and preferred. Handwritten details on these documents as well as premium notices are not acceptable. Send your certification forms directly to the Hidden Ridge Office, PO Box 976, Monticello, NY 12701.



Classifieds

Wanted: Ads to defray costs of printing the GEM, such as, business cards, etc.

Prices for ad space in newsletter:

full page \$25/issue \$125/year
 1/2 page \$15/issue \$75/year
 1/4 page \$10/issue \$50/year
 business card \$5/issue \$25/year

Call Linda: 845-791-6056 (May-Oct.) 561-498-9338 (Oct.-May)

GEM Staff



Contributing Writers:

Fred Hirsh

Lenny Kirschenbaum Janet Lieberman Allan Meyers Peter Morello Karen Seltzer Terry Steinberg

If you would like to contribute to the August issue or consider writing a regular byline, please notify the Editor-in-Chief. Please send your information to:

Linda Solomon at bonsdiva@aol.com

Liberty Pest Control

Liberty Pest Control has visited the premises and will return for those who need to address interior concerns.

Please call them at the following number to make arrangements and be sure to let them know you are part of Hidden Ridge Homeowners Association.

845-361-3100

If you have any questions, speak to Bonnie Siegel.

Life Cycle Events



Bastille Day July 14



Independence Day July 4





Emma Lazarus' Birthday July 22, 1849

Happy Birthday

July - Birthstone: Ruby

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)



Leo (July 23-August 20)





7-2	Vera Zablozki
7-4	Brian Kudler
	Bea Freedlander

- 7-7 Gloria Glick
- 7-9 Ilya Glaz
- 7-15 Jennifer Mitgang Rachel Schatten
- 7-19 Arnold Plotsky
- 7-20 Sylvia Singer
- 7-25 Theo Goldstein

- 7-27 Mark Rachleff Jerry Sullivan
- 7-28 Linda Solomon
- 7-29 Alice Chiappetta
- 7-31 Iris Lynn

Get Well Wishes

Mel Marder

Wishing him a full and speedy recovery



Happy Anniversary

- 1. Clocks and Watches
- 2. China
- 3. Crystal and Glass
- 4. Electrical Appliances
- 5. Silverware
- 6. Wood
- 7. Desk Sets -Pens and Pencil Sets
- 8. Linens and Laces
- 9. Leather
- 10. Diamond Watches and Jewelry
- 11. Fashion Jewelry and Accessories
- 12. Pearl or Colored Gems
- 13. Textiles or Furs

- 15. Watches
- 16. Silver Hollowware
- 17. Furniture
- 18. Porcelain
 - I. FUITEIDI
- 19. Bronze
- 20. Platinum Watches and Jewelry
- 25. Sterling Silver Jubilee
- 30. Diamond Watches and Jewelry
- 35. Jade
- 40. Ruby
- 45. Sapphire
- 50. Golden Jubilee
- 55. Emerald

Happy Anniversary

- 6-16 Shelly & Larry Strickler
- 6-25 Erica & Norman Sadowsky
- 7-02 Gloria & Michael Cserhalmi
- 7-05 Florence & Jack Sachs
- 7-06 Joyce & Sam Glaser

HOLD THE DATE!



- Sunday, July 13 Board of Directors Meeting
- Sunday, July 20 Meet the Candidates
- Sunday, July 27 Board of Directors Meeting
- Sunday, August 3 Annual Meeting and Elections
 Board of Directors Meeting
- Sunday, August 24 Board of Directors Meeting
- Sunday, September 7 Association General Meeting
- Sunday, September 21 Board of Directors Meeting

Congratulations to Lenny Jacobs, whose horse, *Flowmaster*, won at Monticello Raceway! Lenny can be seen on far right in lower left hand corner photo.



Dining and Entertainment

Robbie's Recipes

submitted by Robbie Schecter



While Robbie is vacationing, here are two yummy sounding recipe sure to please our very own Terry Steinberg. You might want to try these recipes from the kitchens of Weight Watchers.

SAUCY CHICKEN

Ingredients:

2 C chicken broth, divided

1/4 C seasoned flour (flour mixed with a dash salt and pepper)

4 (4 oz.) skinless, boneless chicken breasts

1 can (16 oz.) stewed tomatoes

3-4 scallions, chopped

Directions:

- 1. Pour 1/2 cup of the broth into a wide bowl, place flour mixture on plate. Dip each chicken breast in broth, then flour, turning to coat all sides.
- 2. Spray 10– or 12-inclu nonstick skillet with nonstick cooking spray; cook chicken over medium heat, turning once, until browned on both sides. Remove chicken from skillet; set aside.
- 3. Add any remaining flour to skillet; cook, stirring constantly, until browned. Slowly stir in 1/4 cup of the broth, cook until thickened.
- 4. Add tomatoes and scallions to skillet; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, return chicken to skillet and simmer until cooked through, about 10 minutes.

ARTICHOKE AND TOMATO PASTA

Ingredients:

6 oz. uncooked bow-tie noodles

1 can (14-16 oz.) artichoke hearts, drained and halved (not oil-packed)

1 C chopped ripe plum tomatoes

1/4 C torn fresh basil leaves

1 T olive oil

1 T lemon juice

1/4 C crumbled feta cheese

Makes 4 servings.

Directions:

- 1. Cook noodles according to package directions, rinse under cold running water, drain well, and set aside.
- 2. In large bowl, combine remaining ingredients except for cheese; add noodles and toss to coat. Refrigerate for about 1 hour; serve sprinkled with cheese.

Makes 6 servings.

We hope you will enjoy these delicious dishes!

HIDDEN RIDGE POLO SHIRT

The cost will be \$16 for sizes small-extra large (\$18 for sizes 2x and up). (See photo of shirt below) Shirts can be ordered through Bonnie Siegel. Payment will be expected on delivery of the shirts. Thank you for your cooperation.



Hidden Ridge Polo Shirt Order Form:

Name:		
Phone Number:		_
I would like to ord	ler:Hidde	n Ridge Polo Shirt(s)
Small	Medium	Large
X Large	XX Large _	XXX Large
Shirts will be availab	ble at Welcome Bac	k Brunch for purchase.

Renter's Corner



Welcome!

90 HR Drive
159 HR Drive
136 HR Drive
140 HR Drive
49 HR Drive

Welcome New Neighbors





Shirley Thompson

99 HR Drive



Condolences to Barbara Brown and the Brafman family on the loss of

Ira Monis Brafman

May his memory be for a blessing.

Cul-de-Sac Liaisons				
Cul-de-Sac	Numbers	Liaison		
Azaleas	15-23D	Karen Seltzer		
Birch	29-43D	Helen Klein		
Camellias	59-73D	Betty Fuchs		
D affodils	89-103D	Fran Zatz		
Elms	107-125D	Julia Glaz		
Firs	149-171D	Lenny Kirschenbaum		
Gardenias	173-187D	Jerry Bassik		
Hemlocks	193-205D	Lenny Keusch		
Iris	196-214D	Harriet Kopelman		
Juniper	126-148D	Jeff Lynn		
Kerrias	74-96D	Rhoda Hertz		
Laurels	44-58D	Ellen Burzichelli		
Magnolias	29-43T	Sheila Cole		
Narcissus	45-58T	Joe Gluck		
Oaks	28-46T	Jill Friedman		
Petunias	6-26T	Bonnie Siegel		
Roses	8-14D	Helene Schulman		

Monday/Wednesday Night Canasta Tournament Weekly Winners

Inno 16	I 22	Il., 25
<u>June 16</u>	June 23	<u>July 25</u>
Helen Klein	Meryl Miles	Karen Selt-
zer		
Lena Rubin	Espi Turestsky	Meryl Miles
Espi Turetsky	Arnie Plotsky	Joe
Schoenfeld		
Arnie Plotsky	Fran Zatz	Arnie Plot-
sky		
	Mitzi Shoenfeld	
June 30	July 2	July 1
Bea Friedlander	Esther Seltzer	Lena Rubin
Lena Rubin	Isabel Streisand	Helen Badain
Bob Turetsky	Mitzi Shoenfeld	Sol Klein
Fran Zatz	Helen Klein	Linda Solomon
Helen Badain		Isabel Strei-
sand		
		Meryl Miles
		Lee Simon

Julu 9

50-50 Winners July 5 - Arnold Graham

The Poet's Corner



Reunion at "Atlantic Grill"

Cousins congregating
Like gathering sparrows
Preening, murmuring salutations...

Greeting octogenarian Isabelle Sporting flowery hat Bright green ribbons fluttering...

Disparate group,

Draped in finery,

Arrayed around long table,
Nibbling tender lobster
Affecting small talk,
Chatter cluttering silences...

Camaraderie dissipating
Diverse alliances departing...

Janet Lieberman May 29, 2014

ELECTIONS 2014 ARE COMING!

This year there will be elections to fill 4 positions on the Board of Directors. The following Directors' terms of office will end as of August 3, 2014:

> Jerry Bassik Chuck Greenberg Ed Hertz Bonnie Siegel

Election packets have been distributed either by mail or by hand to all residents. The packet contains a notice for our Annual Meeting on August 3, 2-14, absentee ballot and proxy forms.

This year, we are voting on changes to the sales rules and rental rules.

It is important that all members of our community take part in our election process.

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

There have been several occurrences (deaths and funerals, illnesses, etc.) over the winter in which those in charge of disseminating information to the community were not notified in a timely fashion. If you are aware of something that should be disseminated to all of Hidden Ridge, and you have not seen a timely email go out, please make it your business to **notify Bonnie Siegel or Eddie Erlich** as soon as possible. Thank you.

Laura and John - Part I

By Peter Morello

rologue: There are those who have been regarded as the "odd person out," the "square peg in the hole," "the disaffected," "on the outside looking in," those who are "not with it" or any of the other time worn sayings given by the "in crowd" to those who are anything but.

Who made the "in crowd" in? Who decided that those who proclaim themselves as part of the cognoscenti really know so much? Who determines right from wrong? What makes "the odd" odd?

Laura and John can be described as all of the above and they well-knew it and lived it every day of their humdrum, monochromatic lives. They would look at others who resided in their kaleidoscopic world and wondered what it would be like to be one of them - if only for a brief moment they could be like them maybe the rest of the world would see them in a different light. Maybe they would be accepted and could rise above everyone else.

Such wishful thinking served as an anchor they could attach themselves to in the hope that their dreams would be fulfilled and they could join others in their habitués and be included in everything everyone else was doing and not be subjected to the whispers and stares of passersby in their high school and not hear their giggles and laughter as they turned towards each other sharing a private joke.

aura McKenzie was sitting in front of her black and white television set doing what countless other female teens were doing on Sunday evenings in 1961. She was watching Ricky Nelson on his family's show and imagined he was singing for her and only her.

There'll never be anyone else for me but you. Never ever be, just couldn't be, anyone else but you.

There was no one else he could be interested in and her fantasies rested on the idea that they were a couple living in a Technicolor world of wedded bliss where all was well and perfection was the norm. There was no pain, sorrow or sickness — only good prevailed and things worked out as they should and were intended to.

"Laura, you seem mesmerized by the TV. Laura, do you hear me?"

"What was that?" Laura replied to her mother.

"You haven't heard one word I was saying, have you?"

"I did my homework, mom."

"Laura, I'm not talking about your homework. I'm referring to your fixation on Ricky Nelson. You really like him, don't you?"

"Who doesn't, mom? He's gorgeous."

"Marian, don't you remember how fixated you were on Nelson Eddy?" said Laura's father, Joe.

"Lord knows, I really liked Nelson. Alright, I get it but I came up for air once in a while."

"They didn't have television back then – it was

different," Joe said.

"Yeah, I guess you're right. Each generation has its idols, I guess."

"What actress did you like, Joe?"

"Well, I was a big fan of Veronica Lake."

"Oh, yeah, she had really nice hair."

"That's not exactly what I liked about her, dear," Joe replied with a wry smile.

Laura stood five feet nine and weighed one hundred fifteen bony pounds. Although she had a pleasant face, it had become an algae bloom of red, angry pustules that covered both of her cheeks and seemed ready to erupt with volcanic intensity.

Laura had heard all of the insults before – she was known as "Olive Oyle" but other appellations were just as freely ascribed to her – "ironing board," "Skinny Minnie," "totem pole, "pimple face."

The McKenzies lived just off McLean Avenue in Yonkers, New York, and Laura was in her senior year at Yonkers High. She had a small circle of school friends that were usually recipients of the same mocking that Laura endured. The group became very tight-knit and attempted to shield themselves from the insults that frequently were aimed at them.

Laura would walk through the halls of her high school with both arms crossed in front of her pressing her books against her chest and her shoulders rolled forward giving her chest a sunken appearance. She would always hang her head down and her shoulder-length hair hid her face behind a hirsute curtain of shame and self-loathing. She seemed to scurry to and from her classes in the hope she wouldn't be noticed and always sat in the back of the classroom and prayed the teacher wouldn't call on her lest she be noticed and mocked. As she walked the halls of Yonkers High she hoped she would be completely anonymous always aware of the stares and laughter that would follow at the mere sight of her.

By nature Laura was shy and her shyness was compounded by the seemingly relentless insults she sustained; not wanting to ever stand out in a crowd or even be part of a crowd, she was always furtively looking for those who would be ready to sling a verbal volley her way.

Every school day she would be accompanied on her six block walk to school by her two best friends, Sheila and Joan, and they were ever on the lookout for other girls who couldn't resist getting in an insult or two before the beginning of the school day. Particularly loathsome was a group of girls known as the "Pinks." There were about 12 members who always wore pink jackets to school and seemed to gain membership solely on their good looks and nasty demeanor. They seemed to exist for the pleasure of torturing other girls, and sometimes boys and many dated a group of boys who also attended Yonkers High known as the "Gents" who were anything but. Their attitudes were the same as the Pinks and the only differences between the

(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6)

Pinks and the Gents was a "Y" chromosome – not to mention black jackets with the word "GENTS" in white script letters on the back.

This particular Monday morning was no different from the rest – Laura, alone came upon four members of the Pinks just as they were about to enter the main entrance of the school.

"Hey, Laura, I heard you were arrested for mooning when you stuck your head out the window," came the first assault from a willowy, self-absorbed creature named Francine Fink who was walking arm in arm with her boy-friend, Fred Badman, a member of the Gents. Both Francine and Fred let out a hearty laugh as Laura turned away as though she would be able to avoid the words hitting her ears. "What's the matter, Olive Oyle, you don't like us? You prefer your freakish friends instead of us," came another from Francine as Laura cringed and ran into the school and bumped several people along the way.

She ran down the hall crying and seeking the nearest place that would offer her solace and a shield from the seemingly relentless bullying that had constantly tested her ability to endure. She had reached her limit and was close to the breaking point and couldn't face another week of pain.

She went into the bathroom and leaned over the sink and put her face close to the mirror. Whispering and with tears streaming down her face she said, "You're so ugly – that's why nobody likes you. Who will ever marry you - you loathsome creature? I hate you – you hideous demon."

Laura bowed her head and began a long cathartic cry. She took a huge gulp of air and then began to wail. "Why am I so hated? Why can't they just leave me alone in peace? Am I so bad?" She slumped to the floor and continued her emotional blood-letting for several minutes until she was totally exhausted and couldn't produce any more tears.

After the last tears had flowed, she quickly gathered her books that had fallen to the floor and ran as fast as she could out the same door she came in. She continued running and was intent on running the six blocks home until she passed Saint Paul the Apostle Church. She stopped after noticing rice that was on the sidewalk that had remained there from a wedding that took place the previous day. She approached the granite steps in front and bent down and picked up a few grains of rice in her right hand. Standing erect she held out her palm and with her left index finger spread out the rice grains and pondered over their meaning and the event that recently took place.

"People throw you to celebrate a happy event while they hurl insults at me because they hate me. If only I could be a grain of rice." Laura violently threw the rice on the ground and continued her run home with a look of utter disgust on her face.

The next day Laura and her two friends were able to enter their school without any interference from the Pinks

and they breathed a collective sigh of relief. They were relieved that, as of lunch time, not one insult had been levied at them. It was while they were in the cafeteria that Joan asked Laura a question after visually scanning the cafeteria.

"Hey Laura, that's John Fent over there. Do ya know him?" Laura looked two tables to her left and saw a boy she had seen around the hallways in the past. "Yeah, I've seen him once or twice – why?" asked Laura seeming disinterested.

"I think he's rather cute," said Joan with Sheila silently shaking her head in agreement. He's in my American History class and I know him. I can introduce you, Laura," continued Joan.

Laura's face began turning a crimson red matching her acne and giving her face the appearance of one big rash. "I – I'm not interested, Joan. He's just going to make fun of me like all the others," Laura concluded.

"No, he's different Laura. He's a really nice guy and shy like you but very polite," Joan countered. "I'll call him over."

Before Laura could stop Joan she had called out to John and asked him to come over to their lunch table. John stood up and began walking the short distance to where Laura and her friends were seated.

John was the tallest boy at Yonkers High at six foot five and weighed two hundred fifty solid pounds. He never really worked out but had a natural build and was known to be very strong. In his junior year he had forgotten the number to the combination on the lock for his locker and was said to have gripped the lock with one hand and with a mighty twist, ripped the handle right off the locker. He always had a smile on his face revealing a slight overbite and with an ever present crew cut that would make him fit right in with the Marines.

As John sauntered over to Joan, Laura turned her head away in embarrassment and wished she could hide. She could feel her face getting hot and hung her head down and hoped John wouldn't notice her.

"So what's going on, Joan," John said.

"Nothing really, John, I just wanted you to meet a really good friend of mine who I've known since third grade. This is Laura McKenzie. Laura, this is John Fent."

"Well hi, Laura, pleased to meet ya," John responded as Laura was still looking away. Laura slowly turned to face John and was impressed with what she saw and finally mustered a greeting, "Pleased to meet you, too, John."

Joan and Sheila could see the difficulty Laura was having and her obvious embarrassment and decided to excuse themselves so they could use the restroom and force her to speak to John alone.

"John we're going to the bathroom, so why don't you sit in my chair and keep Laura company?" Joan said.
"Well, alright, don't mind if I do," came John's ebullient reply.

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The Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Chuck Greenberg



As of 6/30/2014

Bank Balances:

Checking: \$82,094.16 Money Market: \$60021.51 Reserve: \$150,000.00 Current Cash on Hand: \$292,115.70

- In the last fiscal year we incurred expenses of approximately \$137,000, for octagon windows, retaining walls and roofs.
- Paving of portions of our roads is an ongoing process and is being done on a need to be basis. The same holds true for the retaining walls, octagon windows, roofs, landscaping and many other things.
- In the first two months of our fiscal year, we have expended approximately \$44,000 already.
- The HOA Board is closely monitoring the expenses more than ever. The Board has a zero budget for the 2014-2015 year (see column to the right).
- Unaudited expenses exceeded income last year by approximately \$33,000. The audit for the last fiscal year 4/30/2014 has a few final touches by our auditors to be finalized and we're still projecting them to be completed and distributed by the July meeting.

All of Hidden Ridge is invited to try and find alternative cost-saving ides; please give any suggestions to a board member, in writing, so they may present it to the entire board to be discussed. This is our community and we all need to be involved.

Remember this is our "Jewel" and we need all of Hidden Ridge to keep it shining.

Slow Down and STOP

As more owners, tenants and guests come | SPEED to enjoy our community, it is time to remind everyone that:

The speed limit on Hidden Ridge Drive and Terrace is 15 miles per hour.

Stop at all Stop signs.

Let us ensure that everyone at Hidden Ridge is safe and has a wonderful summer.

Hidden Ridge Homeowners Association Inc. Budget May 1, 2014 - April 30, 2015

INCOME	
Late Fees	3500
Maintenance Fees	540000
Other Income	12000
Rental Fees	6800
Transfer Fees	4500
TOTAL INCOME	\$566,800
EXPENSES	
Advertising	2000
Audit	9500
Bad Debts	18000
Billing/Accounting	9000
Cable/Phone	3600
Clubhouse Expenses Entertainment	22500
Maintenance	5000
Electric	10500
Franchise Tax	500
Heating/Gas (pool and clubhouse)	11000
Insurance	20000
Legal Fees	7000
License & Fees	500
Maintenance	500
Gas	4750
General	40000
Octagon Windows	30000
Paving	12000
Retaining Walls	5000
Roof Repairs	50000
Maintenance Equipment	20000
Meeting and Entertainment Expense	9000
Office Expense	7500
Payroll Expenses	
Maintenance	102950
Safety	47850
Payroll Taxes	
FICA Expense	9260
FUI Expense	450
Medicare Expense	2275
SUI Expense	8540
Pest Control	10800
Pool Maintenance	10000
Professional Fees Real Estate Taxes	0 500
Refuse Removal	9600
Safety – Gas Allowance	2600
Security System	2000
Snow Removal	17000
Uniforms	750
Water	45000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$566,800
INCOME OVER EXPENSES	\$0

For Your Information

Terry's Fitness & Health Corner



Snacks for a Hot Summer

(low calorie and delicious)

by Terry Steinberg

The summer months bring temptation for cold, sugary, fun desserts reminiscent of our childhoods...The Good Humor man, Mr. Softee, Italian ices, etc., all of which can bump up your calories and sugar allowance for the day. So, I am suggesting chilling out with sweet treats that cool you off without weighing you down. Now do not expect large or even medium sized portions, SMALL portions must be your rule of thumb! Anything larger will cost you hundreds of calories, especially as we get older; be satisfied with less. Below are some fun and yummy ideas.

- 1. Lemon raspberry ice cream sandwich:. 2 T raspberry sorbet between 2 lemon thins. You can use any sorbet (chocolate) and 2 low fat Graham crackers to change off. (60 cal.-100 cal.)
- 2. Grapes 3/4 cup frozen cut in half: (78 cal.)
- 3. Neapolitan cone: 3 T Edys slow churned lite, Neapolitan ice cream in a plain or Oreo cone (80 cal.)
- 4. Citrus ices bowl: 1/3 cup lemon or orange ices in a scooped out lemon or orange rind Freeze whole thing. (70 cal.)
- 5. Affogato: 1/4 cup non-fat coffee yogurt topped with 1/4 cup brewed espresso or decaf and top with teaspoon of bittersweet mini chocolate chips.(98 cal.)
- 6. Thick Shake: 4 oz. skim milk, 1/2 banana or 1/3 cup berries, 1/4 cup vanilla low-fat frozen yogurt, tons of crushed ice. Blend till frothy. (100-120 cal.)
- 7. Any Weight Watchers icicle pop, fudgicle, or frozen fruit bar: (100 120 cal.)
- 8. For anyone who likes a bit of a cocktail spiked blueberry lemonade: 1/4 cup blueberries blended with 1 T lemon juice, 1 T citrus vodka, 1 cup ice (optional 1 tsp. sugar). (80 cal.)

With a dash of willpower, you can save tons of calories, feel healthier and enhance your exercise program with these desserts instead of what you usually indulge in! Make a commitment and by the end of the summer you will feel cool and svelte.

Social Committee



submitted by Karen Seltzer

The summer season at Hidden Ridge is well underway with lots of activities. We had a very successful welcome back breakfast on June 22nd. Everyone enjoyed seeing their summer friends after the long winter. They also enjoyed the delicious food. Monday and Wednesday night Canasta started, along with poker. Tuesday night Bingo had a very nice crowd, Thursday night Movies were shown. Our big July 4th dinner and show was well attended. Everyone loved listening and dancing to The Platters. Lee Rosenthal sponsored our beautiful July 4th cake. Thanks to all the wonderful people who volunteered to help make all the activities so successful.

Here are some of the shows we are planning for future Saturday nights:

- Lumiri Tubo with Ilya and his one-man band
- John Timpanelli
- Vinnie Talerico (and his leather pants)
- Suzi Cruz and her one-woman show
- The Bronx Wanderers

Check the bulletin board for weekly details.

A Note Regarding Monthly Maintenance Payments

Maintenance payments are due on the 1st of each month. If your payment is received with a postmark after the 15th of the month it is late and a late fee will be added to you account. With the rare exception, no one will receive a waiver for these additional charges.

Here are a few ways to avoid late charges:

- 1. Set up through your bank for them to automatically send a check from your bank account each month so that it reaches us prior to the 15th. Indicate your unit number in the memo section of the check so that there will not be a need to include the coupon from the maintenance youcher booklet.
- 2. Prepay for several months at a time. Some of homeowners actually pay the entire year's maintenance charges in January.
- 3. Prepay by postdating your check. You can also postdate several months at a time. These will be kept in our office and each month, the correct check will be pulled.

Please remember, we are running a business. We have bills that must be paid each month as well! When you are late in paying any other bill, for example a credit card, late fees are imposed!

Thank you for your cooperation.

(continued from page 7)

By this time Laura was dying inside and was quite angry at her friends for abandoning her. What would she say to John and how would he treat her? Was he just being kind or would he genuinely like her? She knew he wasn't a member of the Gents so maybe he wasn't all that bad. He really did have a nice smile and was strong and taller than she, which Laura felt was a good thing.

"So, Laura, I understand you're a senior too," stated John confidently.

"Well, I am – but how did you know that," Laura quizzically asked.

"I saw you walking in the halls and I noticed some of the classes you went to and I know other people in that class so I just put things together."

"In what way did you notice me? I mean I'm not usually noticed in a good way."

"I just noticed you, that's all, and I also asked about you."

"Asked about me?"

"I asked my friends about you and they said you were a really nice person."

"What made you ask about me? I don't get it."

"Does a guy really have to explain that to a gal?" John asked while breaking out in a big smile revealing his overbite.

"Well, if you really know me then you know I'm sort of considered an oddball by many and not well-liked. I really have had problems with the Pinks and Gents over the last two years," Laura countered.

"Aw, they don't bother me and I know they consider me sort of an oddball, too. I'm the kinda guy that sees the glass as half full. I'm studious, not a very good athlete, rather shy around new people and very rarely get mad; and I really like people and try to accept each person for who they are. I guess some folks have a problem with that and I regard that as their problem, not mine," he added with an attempt to impress. "I guess you could say I march to the beat of a different drummer."

Laura was transfixed on what John was saying and didn't see him as odd at all and was impressed with his veracity and manliness.

"Hey, Laura, Joan and Sheila are returning from the bathroom. Do you think I could have your phone number?"

Yet again, Laura turned red and hung her head down staring at her lap.

"I didn't mean to embarrass you, I just thought I..."

"I'd love to give you my number, John," Laura quickly said, while slightly raising her head.

TO BE CONTINUED...

H.R. Club News



The HR Book Club will be reading our first book of the season for our meeting on Saturday, July 19, 2014 at 2:00 PM either at the Pool Pavilion, weather permitting, or in the Clubhouse. Bring your own drinks and snacks.

The book we will review together is the *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. Here is a brief synopsis of the book

Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East Coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by pure luck. Would they be adopted by a kind and loving family, or would they face a childhood and adolescence of hard labor and servitude?

As a young Irish immigrant, Vivian Daly was one such child, sent by rail from New York City to an uncertain future a world away. Returning east later in life, Vivian leads a quiet, peaceful existence on the coast of Maine, the memories of her upbringing rendered a hazy blur. But in her attic, hidden in trunks, are vestiges of a turbulent past.

Seventeen-year-old Molly Ayer knows that a community-service position helping an elderly widow clean out her attic is the only thing keeping her out of juvenile hall. But as Molly helps Vivian sort through her keepsakes and possessions, she discovers that she and Vivian aren't as different as they appear. A Penobscot Indian who has spent her youth in and out of foster homes, Molly is also an outsider being raised by strangers, and she, too, has unanswered questions about the past.

Moving between contemporary Maine and Depressionera Minnesota, Orphan Train is a powerful tale of upheaval and resilience, second chances, and unexpected friendship.

Hidden Ridge Directory

Are you a new homeowner/renter? Have you moved?

Have you changed your phone number?

Have you changed your email address? Did we miss your birthday/anniversary?

Do you want to be published in the community directory?

If the answer to any of these questions is **YES**, complete the form on the back page and submit it to our office. New Directories will be distributed in late July 2014.

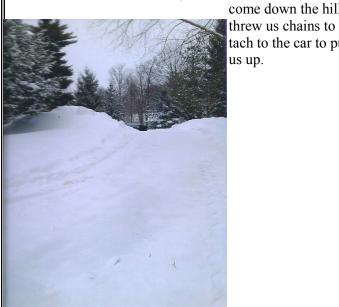
THE 2014 WINTER AT HIDDEN RIDGE

Submitted by Marlene Marcus

Welcome back all Hidden Ridgers to our Jewel of the Catskills! We are so happy that summer has come. Those of us who survived the winter of 2014 at Hidden Ridge have interesting stories to tell. We were so fortunate to have Lenny [Kirshenbaum] and Jerry [Bassik] with us over the winter. They did their best but there was so much snow! The plow company ignored the red poles.

1. This is the hill going down from "The Elms"." Once you came down the hill, you couldn't get back up! We had to call AAA and they sent a flatbed. They wouldn't

come down the hill and threw us chains to attach to the car to pull





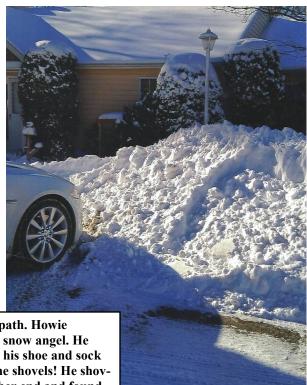
2. 111 Hidden Ridge Drive. Every week we had to dig in to get into our house.



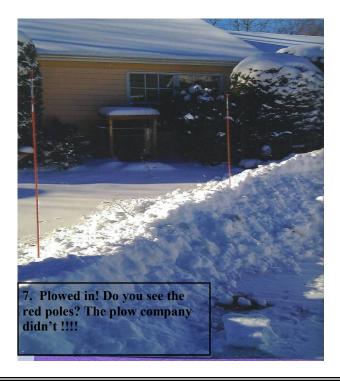


4. Roberta & Al [Shapiro] asked us to check on their house. How? It was in April that we could finally see if all was okay.





5. & 6. Howie and I made a path. Howie "rolled" into the house like a snow angel. He tried to walk at first, but lost his shoe and sock so he decided to roll. to get the shovels! He shoveled one end and I did the other end and found his shoe and sock.





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DOG REGISTRATION

At the 2012 Annual Meeting the following rules concerning dogs were accepted by the membership. All residents (owners and renters) are to adhere to the following:



- Homeowners and renters are to register their dogs (including service dogs as well as those visiting for a short time) with the homeowners association and provide proof of current rabies vaccination. Please send this information to the office.
- All dogs residing in Hidden Ridge for a period of 30 consecutive days must also be registered and licensed in the Town of Thompson. Proof of this license must be presented to the homeowners association. All homeowners shall provide proof the dog is licensed in the jurisdiction in which the dog's primary residence is maintained, if the dog does not reside for a period of 30 consecutive days in Hidden Ridge.
- Dog owners are responsible for abiding by the regulations set forth by the Town of Thompson which includes picking up after their dog, walking dogs on leashes, avoiding excessive barking, etc.
- There is a limit of 2 dogs per unit. If you have more than two dogs you MAY NOT replace the extra dog(s) as you lose them.

If you need a copy of the Town of Thompson regulations, or if you have any questions, please contact: Bonnie Siegel 917-969-9646 siegelmath@aol.com

Words to Live By

Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.

~ Vince Lombardi ~ 1913-1970

It is only in the country that we can get to know a person or a book.

~ Cyril Connolly ~ 1903-1974

Results of Tax Grievances for 2014

Sixty-nine (69) Hidden Ridgers filed tax grievances to have the assessed value of their homes lowered. Here are the results:

- First time grievers were asked (by the new Town Assessor) if they would sign a stipulation to lower the assessed value of their unit to \$70000 (if the grievance arrived in a timely fashion). Those who signed will now have the assessed value of their homes at \$70,000. 37 homeowners signed a stipulation.
- First time grievers who did not sign and return the stipulation were all denied by the Board of Assessment review as well as those homeowners who were already at \$70000 (or less) from last year. These homeowners have the right to appeal within 30 days the decision of the BAR. There were 32 who were denied 19 of these were already at \$70,000 or below.

It has been suggested that in the future, the group of Hidden Ridgers have an attorney familiar with tax grievance procedures represent them. Warren Berkowitz volunteered to research to find us the attorney. Individuals will "sign up" with the attorney as a group. When we have more details, all homeowners will be contacted.

Like what you read? Want to keep the GEM going? Consider writing a piece for the newsletter that will be of interest to all of our neighbors. Do you winter in Monticello? If so, have you been to any new restaurants and/or stores? Would you be willing to write a review? Please lend your voice and your experiences to continue the GEM. It is very difficult to keep our little newsletter viable without input from new voices. Please send your thoughts and ideas for columns to Linda Solomon, editor-in-chief. Thanks!

IS IT TIME FOR A CHANGE?

by Lenny Kirschenbaum

As one of the great observers of our time, just in case no one else noticed, there have been "winds of change" sweeping through our community. Hidden Ridge was conceived, designed, and built when the Mountains were in their heyday. Hotels (and bungalow colonies) offered many amenities and perks. Vacationers were plied with hot and cold blintzes and sumptuous meals and snacks throughout their stay. Swimming, in one's choice of indoor or outdoor pools, "Simon Says," games, tennis, golf, ice skating, card tournaments, top flight entertainment, and a host of other services and activities.

Hidden Ridge homeowners were able to participate and enjoy most of those same amenities and services as vacationers. The majority of families who purchased units, did so as a way to ensure that they would have a second home that would be utilized as a summer vacation spot and as a place for a quick getaway during the rest of the year. There were very few families who made Hidden Ridge their year-round homes.

Let's fast forward and take a snapshot of our community as it is today. If we look around, we begin to see a shift in the makeup of our population and demographics. There are more year-rounders and weekenders. There is an influx of locals who have purchased houses and are raising their families here. Just as there was a need for certain amenities 25 years ago - a club house, a pool, entertainment, etc., there are now different needs - different strokes for different folks! There has been a need to provide snow plowing, sanding, salting, etc. to ensure that our roads and cul-de-sacs remain open. What if there were a fire or a medical emergency and our roads were left unplowed? This could be a tragic loss if emergency services were unable to respond.

From what I have been lead to believe, Hidden Ridge was constructed in 1985. That makes us 29 years old. Unfortunately, things don't last forever. Roofs wear out, leaks develop, sidewalks heave, trees die and limbs fall. Paved roads, too, do not last forever without proper maintenance. Pools and pooldecks, and security require constant upkeep and attention.

During the summer there is a pool, shows, maintenance, activities, movies, a gym, and landscaping. I am curious as a winter resident, am I not entitled to a good show once in a while? How about if I want to go swimming. Shouldn't there be a pool available for the year-rounders? How about maintenance for the year-rounders? I don't get that either. Have I become a second class citizen?

It's time for us as a community to get on the same page and look at the bigger picture. It's not summer people or winter people or weekend people. It's all of us as a whole. What's good for the goose is good for the chicken!

" Are you concerned about the future of Hidden Ridge?

submitted by Fred Hirsh

If you are, then we are naming a small committed of full timers, weekenders, and snow birds to look into the future of Hidden Ridge. The committee will explore possible capital improvements, issues regarding maintenance and any other issues of importance or concern to our community in the hope of developing a plan that will make our special community even better and more attractive to our current and future residents.

If you are interested, please come to the Meet the Candidates Meeting on July 20th. If you can't make the Meet the Candidates meetings, please see Bonnie Siegel of the Board or Fred Hirsh."

IMPORTANT OSTER PETTING ZOO AND FAMILY FUN PARK

The Oster Petting Zoo and Family Fun Park at 65 Friedman Road has opened for business this week.

They received a conditional permit from the Town of Thompson that will be reviewed in September.

If you have any complaint (i.e. - excessive noise, wandering children or animals on Hidden Ridge property, etc.) please do the following:

Contact:

1 - Eric Horton, Code Enforcement Officer, Town of Thompson 4052 State Route 42 Monticello, NY 12701 845 794-2500 Extension 321

Fax: 845-794-8600

Email: ehorton@townofthompson.com\

2 – Send a note to Bonnie Siegel to let her know that you registered a complaint and the nature of the complaint.

We will keep a log of your complaints.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Jerry Bassik



I am a Naval War Veteran of the Korean Combat. I was honorably discharged and then I went to work in an electronics factory in the Bronx as a Production Manager. During one of my residences in the Bronx, I was vice-president of our neighborhood Homeowner's As-

sociation. Later in my career, I went to School for Insurance Agents. I worked for Allstate Insurance Co. for 30 years until my retirement.

I have been living in Hidden Ridge for 15 years (some of it part-time in the summers). The last 5 years I have been an all-year resident. I have gone to school in Orange County to become a NYS Licensed Security Agent. For the past 3 years, I have been on the Board and assisting Lenny Kirschenbaum, the other full-time resident on the Board, with the duties of maintaining Hidden Ridge during the winters. I also assist the Editor-in-Chief of the *GEM* by procuring advertisements from local vendors. I believe with my background and experience, I can continue to be an asset to the community.

Ed Hertz

Hello, my name is Ed Hertz and I am seeking re-election to the Hidden Ridge HOA's Board. I have been a renter and homeowner for the past 9 years. My responsibility for my first 2 years on the Board had been the heading up of Maintenance. Along with a dedicated Board of Directors and very able maintenance crew under the watchful eye of Mike Bauer, we have accomplished a great deal. I hope you are all very pleased with the quality and quantity of



work that has been completed in my tenure. Another responsibility that I have accepted is to oversee the sales and rentals of homes here in Hidden Ridge. I act as liaison to the realtors and the Advertising Committee, dedicated to the sale and rental of even more homes. Wishing you and yours a healthy and safe summer. Your vote

would be much appreciated.

Chuck Greenberg

Hi everyone, this is Charles Greenberg, or known to most of you as Chuck. For those to whom my name does not strike a bell, I'm that guy floating in the pool,

playing CDs, wearing suspenders, dancing in the clubhouse on Saturday nights, or maybe just the treasurer of the HOA.

The past two years have not only seen me working on the books (with our accountants) but also liaison to the advertising and beautification committees. I am one of most progressive



members on the board and running for another two years to help our "Jewel of the Catskills" shine.

Not only will I try to keep our current expenses to a minimum (with the other members of the board) but I'm trying to bring our development into the future. Since the profile of our new homeowners has been changing (many of our new buyers are here full time), the board is working on the feasibility of adding winter Maintenance. If re-elected, I will continue to work toward developing Hidden Ridge into the shining jewel that we know and make it desirable to all future buyers.

Bonnie Siegel

I have been a resident at Hidden Ridge since 2005. My experience includes 30+ years with the NYC Department of Education as a classroom teacher, staff developer, District and School Administrator. In those roles I was responsible for overseeing budgets in excess of \$1,000,000.00 implementing and running after-school and summer school programs for 28 schools. In these positions, one needs to be a quick thinker and problem solver.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors since November, 2007, as Secretary (2007-2010) and then as President (2010-present). I have also been an active member of the Social committee, assisting in planning and preparation of activities for the community.

During my tenure as President of the HOA, I have supervised or taken the lead on the following initiatives/projects at Hidden Ridge:

- Interaction with our legal counsel and insurance broker in regard to resolution of concerns for the HOA;
- Improvement of communication to the community via the *GEM* newsletter, email, bulletin boards, cul de sac liaisons.
- Overseeing the Maintenance of our property and the crew who serve us.
- Beautification of areas at the rear gate on Liberty Road as well as entrances to the cul-de-sacs.
- Restoration of several retaining walls throughout the community.
- Oversee the installation of lights on the hill from the Clubhouse up to Hidden Ridge Drive and from the Drive up to the Terrace.

I am task oriented and hope that my fellow Hidden Ridgers can detect these qualities and have experienced a positive change in our community. I welcome the opportunity to continue to serve on the Board in the coming term. Thank you.

ALLAN'S ALLEY

submitted by Allan Meyers



GOOD TO THE LAST DROP

Have you noticed how the price of coffee keeps going up and up? It reminds me when the NYS Department of Law moved into 2 World Trade Center. At that time the building wasn't fully completed and you had to wear a hard hat to get higher than the 55th floor. My office was on the 48th floor.

There were many excellent restaurants throughout the Trade Center, but for breakfast or coffee breaks we would eat at the State restaurant on the 43rd floor. I would never order the breakfast special because the scrambled egg had a greenish tint to it. The coffee and the blue berry muffins weren't half bad.

Every day I would order coffee, a muffin or a bagel. One day as I was going through the line to pay, the cashier informed me that the price of coffee had risen from 15 cents a cup to 20 cents a cup.

"Oh, the price of coffee has gone up again?"

"No," she replied, "it was the price of milk and sugar that went up!"

Jokingly I told her that, in that case, I'll only give her 15 cents since I only drink my coffee black.

She began to yell at me and said that no matter whether or not I take milk or sugar," you have to pay the increase because you're entitled to the milk and sugar."

For the next six years, I would only go on her line no matter how long it was. Each time I would ask her for three sweet and lows and two sugars. She would glare at me, mumble under her breath, and resentfully give me the sugars.

My suit pockets always had packets of sugar and my secretary had Jars full. Unfortunately I could never figure out how to take the milk home. Sometime I would tell the cranky lady that I didn't feel like having my coffee sweet," so could I please have four sweet and lows and three sugars. "

When the Koch administration came in, I was asked to leave the Attorney General's office and to accept the Managing Attorney position for the NYC Law Department.

So as I went through Ms. Nasty's line for the last time, I told her that I did not need sugar, since it was my last day as I had a new position with the Corporation Council. She looked at me and started to cry. She left the cashier's booth and then she hugged and kissed me.

To this very day I think of her every time I see a packet of sweet and low, but not as often as I used to, as Adrienne now uses Splenda.

MORE ALLAN'S ALLEY

submitted by Allan Meyers



LOTSA MISHAGOSS

- It's getting harder and harder to find a restaurant to eat at around here. Where the hell are Mike Mondschein's articles on restaurant reviews? What are we supposed to do? Follow Mike and Lois when they go out at night?
- Social Communication is beyond me. I've never even been on U-tube. Yet, there is a rumor going around that the Pool Lady writes a satirical humorous article on face book. Hearsay has it that it also contains words that I haven't heard since I was in Basic Training.
- Wine, wine, wine. Remember when wine served at the Passover Seder had to be sweet, sweet, sweet. Not so good for us with "old man" diabetes. Today, of course, Passover wine can be dry. Here's some fun facts about kosher wine:

Wines for the Sabbath: only Observant Jews can handle the product at the winery.

Kosher for Passover: a wine that has not come into contact with bread or any grain product. For the first three years *the fruit of the vine* cannot be used. Growing grains or vegetables between or near the vines is prohibited. And, of course, according to the bible there is the sabbatical year where every seven years the fields are put to rest.

- Many moons ago Oscar Pavoloff was trying to sell us a house at Hidden Ridge. We liked one house on the Terrace and one down on the Drive. It was February and we were standing in three feet of snow. Oscar said," Where do you think the water goes when the snow melts?"
- So we became proud owners of 130 HRT. And Oscar being a good salesman and true to his beliefs is now living in our Cul-de-Sac.
- The other day, Eddie Erlich introduced me to Ellen Burzichelli. Ellen told me that not only did she enjoy my articles but it was the only reason that she read the *GEM*. I thanked her profusely, but I didn't have the heart to tell that I wasn't Peter Morello.













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Bagels and coffee will be served.

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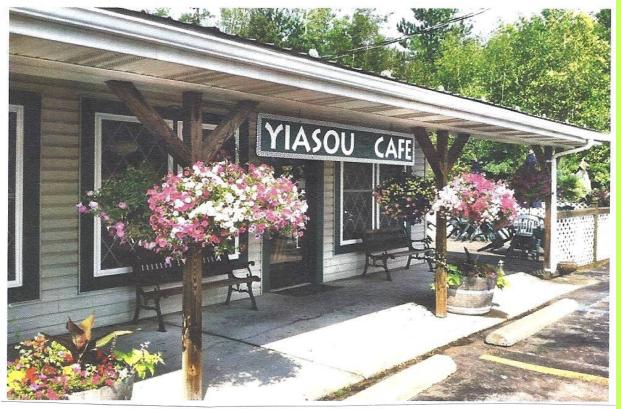
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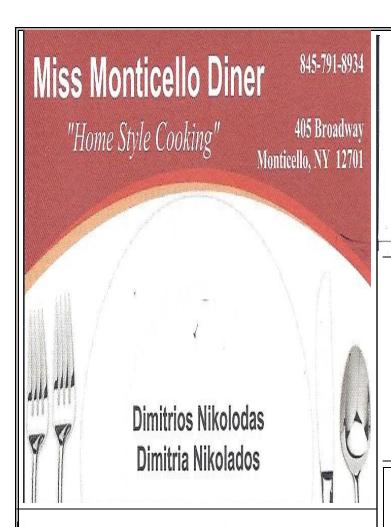
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Issue 14-03

Hidden Ridge Directory Information Sheet

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