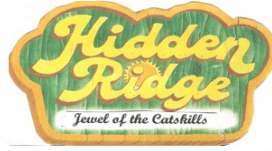


The Hidden Ridge GEM

July 2015

Issue 15-03



The President's Message



Dear Fellow Hidden Ridgers,

The summer of 2015 has gotten off to a wonderful start despite the sometimes uncooperative weather supplied by Mother Nature. Our Welcome Back Breakfast as well as our July 4th Dinner and Show featuring Shirley Alston Reeves were both successful. Kudos to Karen Seltzer and her group of volunteers for all of their work in making the events run smoothly.

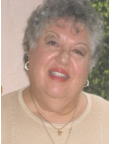
As of this writing, four candidates either filed their intent to run or were nominated from the floor to fill the three seats that are open this year. I want to remind the community that the Board is made of volunteers who work together to make this a viable community. It is important for you when making your decision as to who you will vote for this year consider the "record" of those running. This is not a popularity contest! Some questions to ponder in making your decision might be:

- What is the person's background?
- How will their experiences assist in the running of the community?
- What are their strengths?
- What can this person offer to the Board and the community?
- What have they done for this community in the time that they have lived here?
- Has this person volunteered their time and talents to the community before?
- Has the person been visible?
- Will this person represent all of Hidden Ridge or a select few?
- Does this person offer constructive suggestions and/or creative solutions to problems?

You will have a chance to ask your questions of the candidates on July 19th at "Meet the Candidates" and then vote at our Annual Meeting on August 2. Both activities will be in the clubhouse.

It is important that each of you exercise your right to vote. Election packets were distributed during the week of July 5th. If you cannot be here in person, exercise your right either by sending in an absentee ballot or designating someone who will be attending the meeting to be your proxy. We need to hear from all of you!!!

From the Editor



Dear Fellow Hidden Ridgers,

HELP! As you can see by the lateness of this July issue, I just cannot do this alone anymore. I have asked for assistance with the bookkeeping and that is very important. All that it entails is keeping a record of the vendors (all set up) and their payment schedule, renewal letters, and contracts (also all set up). Won't someone please consider taking over this chore for me? You don't even have to go out and solicit vendors, Jerry Bassik does that for us. I will be eternally grateful.

Now, speaking of vendors, Jerry and I are going to try to speak to the vendors about Hidden Ridge discounts. Some of them are complaining that they don't know if any business is coming from their advertisement in the GEM. If we are going to keep them, we need to let them know every time we use one of them that we saw their ad in our GEM newsletter, even if you have done so before. If any of them are willing to give a discount for this news, we'll let you know and both you and that vendor will be in a win-win situation.

Also, if you go to a new business that does not appear in the GEM, let them know about our newsletter and that it reaches 150 units in our community and is also posted online. Then if you get a card from them, we will make the contact and sign them up as a new vendor. You will be going a long way toward keeping this newsletter going!

Linda

I want to remind the community that the members of the Board of Directors as well as those volunteers who serve on a committee (Long Range Planning, Social or Beautification) work on **their** time servicing the community in a variety of ways. If you would like to help - contact one of the committee liaisons. While I know that volunteering is sometimes a thankless job, the occasional "thank you" makes it all worthwhile. Thank you to those who recognize our efforts. Let's enjoy our community and each other.

Bonnie

2014-2015 Board of Directors

Bonnie Siegel	President	791-6056 917-969-9646
Lenny Kirschenbaum	V. Pres	794-3395
Ed Hertz	Treasurer	791-7209 561-706-3301
Chuck Greenberg	Secretary	516-445-3845
Jerry Bassik	Director	791-4273
Larry Miles	Director	917-865-2879
Karen Seltzer	Director	794-2752 917-861-6291

Hidden Ridge H.O.A.
PO Box 976

Monticello, NY 12701

Patrol/Safety number: 845-794-8180

Hidden Ridge H.O.A. Committee Liaisons

Advertising	Chuck Greenberg
Audit	Ed Hertz/Bonnie Siegel
Beautification	Ed Hertz
Clubhouse	Karen Seltzer/Bonnie Siegel
Cul de Sac Liaisons	Larry Miles
Entertainment	Bonnie Siegel/Karen Seltzer
Grievances	Bonnie Siegel/Lenny K.
GEM/Web Site	Bonnie Siegel/Jerry Bassik
Insurance Certification	Bonnie Siegel/Jerry Bassik
Insurance Matters	Bonnie Siegel/Jerry Bassik
Legal	Bonnie Siegel
Liaison to Veria	Bonnie Siegel
Long Range Planning	Bonnie Siegel/ Lenny K.
Maintenance	Lenny K./Ed Hertz
Daily Pool	Larry Miles
Safety	Lenny Kirschenbaum
Sales & Rentals	Ed Hertz/Bonnie Siegel
Sanitation & Recycling	Jerry Bassik/Lenny K.
Snow Removal	Lenny K./Jerry Bassik
Social	Karen Seltzer

Upcoming Events

Next Board Meeting: Sunday, July 12

Meet the Candidates: Sunday July 19

Annual Meeting: Sunday, August 2

Please see the bulletin boards or website.

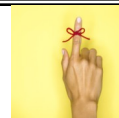


Want to announce something to our community? Call Linda and place an ad in the GEM.

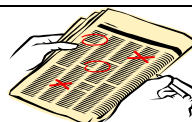
Please call 917-747-8660 or email: bonsdiva@aol.com

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



Editor-in-Chief

Linda Solomon

Senior Editor

Bonnie Siegel

Advertising

Jerry Bassik

Contributing Writers:

Ed Hertz

Lenny Kirschenbaum

Janet Lieberman

Robbie Schecter

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

JULY



Independence Day
July 4



Bastille Day
July 14



Emma Lazarus' Birthday
July 22, 1849



Tisha B'Av
July 26

June - Birthstone: Pearls

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Leo (July 23-August 20)



Happy Birthday

06-11 Willie Steinberg	07-19 Arnold Plotsky
06-19 Shirley Thompson	07-20 Sylvia Singer
07-01 David Muirhead	07-25 Theo Goldstein
07-02 Vera Zabloski	07-27 Mark Rachleff
07-04 Brian Kudler	Jerry Sullivan
Bea Freedlander	07-28 Linda Solomon
07-07 Gloria Glick	07-29 Alice Chiappetta
07-09 Ilya Glaz	07-31 Iris Lynn
07-15 Jennifer Mitgang	
Rachel Schatten	

Special thanks to some very special people!

- Tatiana Shorten for delivering the June edition of the GEM to those residents who were here
- Brian Kudler and Eddie Erlich Kudler for the donation of plants that are decorating the lamp posts at the pool and the pool pavilion
- Carole and Bruce Baken for donating the plants that were placed in the garden area in the Firs cul de sac
- Alice and Jerry Chiappetta for their donation towards the purchase of the cake for our July 4th Party



Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Clocks and Watches | 15. Watches |
| 2. China | 16. Silver Hollowware |
| 3. Crystal and Glass | 17. Furniture |
| 4. Electrical Appliances | 18. Porcelain |
| 5. Silverware | 19. Bronze |
| 6. Wood | 20. Platinum Watches and Jewelry |
| 7. Desk Sets - Pens and Pencil Sets | 25. Sterling Silver Jubilee |
| 8. Linens and Laces | 30. Diamond Watches and Jewelry |
| 9. Leather | 35. Jade |
| 10. Diamond Watches and Jewelry | 40. Ruby |
| 11. Fashion Jewelry and Accessories | 45. Sapphire |
| 12. Pearl or Colored Gems | 50. Golden Jubilee |
| 13. Textiles or Furs | 55. Emerald |

- | | |
|------|----------------------------|
| 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 |

SAVE THE DATE!



- Sunday, July 12 - Board of Directors Meeting
 - Sunday, July 19- Meet the Candidates
 - Sunday, July 26 - Board of Directors Meeting
 - Sunday, August 2- Annual Meeting and Elections
 - Sunday, August 9 - Board of Directors Meeting
 - Sunday, August 23- Board of Directors Meeting
 - Sunday, August 30 - Association General Meeting
 - Sunday, September 20 - Board of Directors Meeting
- * Dates to remember are subject to change; please check the bulletin board and website.

- All of the members of the Social Committee under the leadership of Karen Seltzer who helped to set up for the July 4th Party
- Betty Fuchs and Eddie Erlich Kudler for coordinating the Pool Party that was held on July 5th
- Thelma Friedenthal for donating several hosta from her garden to be placed around the community
- To the Beautification Committee - Rhoda Hertz, Tatiana Shorten, and Eddie Erlich Kudler for weeding and maintaining our gardens

Dining and Entertainment

Robbie's Recipes

submitted by Robbie Schecter



Here's a recipe from Hidden Ridger, Erica Sadowsky.

It's great on a bagel, or as a party spread with crackers

HUNGARIAN CREAM CHEESE

4 oz cream cheese

4 oz farmer cheese

4 oz butter or margarine

3 tsp Dijon mustard

3 tsp red paprika

1 tsp anchovy paste

3 tsp finely chopped scallions

if you like, crushed caraway seeds

Mix all ingredients together with mixer or by hand

Refrigerate

ENJOY!

HIDDEN RIDGE ATTIRE

Wear your Hidden Ridge wardrobe around town and show your pride in our community!

Hidden Ridge T-Shirts (new this year!):

Navy blue cotton tee shirt in sizes Small - 3X

All sizes: \$10

Hidden Ridge Polo Shirts:

White piquet with HR logo in sizes Small - 3X

(Most sizes left) S-XL \$16; 1X-3X \$18

Hidden Ridge Sweatshirts (new this year!):

Navy blue zippered hoodie with 2 pockets sizes S-3X

All sizes: \$20



Renter's Corner



Welcome !

Angela Tait 202 HR Drive

Les Winston 59 HR Drive

Welcome New Neighbors



No new homeowners this month.

Hidden Ridge Wardrobe Order Form:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Item: HR Tee Shirt

Number: _____

Size(s): _____

Item: HR Polo Shirt

Number: _____

Size(s): _____

Item: HR Sweatshirt

Number: _____

Size(s): _____

Submit your order to Bonnie Siegel

Cul-de-Sac Liaisons

Cul-de-Sac	Numbers	Liaison
Azaleas	15-23D	Karen Seltzer
Birch	29-43D	Helen Klein
Camellias	59-73D	Betty Fuchs
Daffodils	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	Vacancy
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

The Poet's Corner



By Janet Lieberman

Woven of

Dreams, half awake ...

Catching music like gold dust,

Sounds sweep through dreams...

Jet planes rumble, resound thru space

Trains rattle on tracks, pulsate like drums

Children chatter, shriek

Chant, "hoppin' boppin", "tweedle dum,

tweedle dee"

Cacophony mingles with bird calls

Red robin whistles "tweet, tweet, tweet"

Terrace chimes tinkle, French horn wails

Comes in snatches, soft and loud...

Reverberates thru sleep,

Concludes in silence.

In Memoriam

With great sadness we announce the following losses to our community

Victorio Savellano

husband of Buena

Aron Schatten

husband of Penny and father of Rachel

May their memories be for a blessing.

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 10th of the month it is late and a late fee will be added to your 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 10th. 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 voucher 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!

Slow Down and STOP

As more owners, tenants and guests come 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.

**SPEED
LIMIT
15**

MEET THE CANDIDATES

It is time to hear from the candidates to the Board for open positions for the term of 2015-2016. There are presently four candidates for three positions. Here are their blurbs in alphabetical order.

Fred Hirsh - Most people in Hidden Ridge call me the judge. I was a Nassau County District Court Judge in 2002 and from 2008 to 2014. I have been the principal law clerk to a New York State Supreme Court Justice and was an attorney in private practice for nearly 25 years.



I am the chairperson of the Future of Hidden Ridge Committee which has been looking into feasibility of improvements to our community that will make Hidden Ridge more enjoyable to its current residents and will make our community more desirable for future residents.

I served as a member of the Board of Directors of East Meadow Kiwanis, the largest Kiwanis Club in New York State, from 2011 to 2014 and have been its community service chairperson since 2012. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Theodore Roosevelt American Inns of Court. I was secretary of the New York State District Court Judges Association from 2013 to 2014 and treasurer of the Nassau County District Court Judges Association from 2012 to 2014.

My wife Mindy and I have been owners in Hidden Ridge since 2011. You can see us walking around the community with our bulldog, Winston.

Hidden Ridge is not only our home, it is a \$600,000 a year, year-round business. All too often we seem to be addressing problems after they arise rather than taking action to avoid problems. We also re-fight the battles of past rather than address the current and future needs of our great community.

Hidden Ridge is a community in transition. Full time residency has tripled since 2011. Kutsher's no longer exists. We have to develop a comprehensive plan that will meet the current and future needs of all of our residents. The Board of Directors needs to be pro-active regarding the zombie properties in our community. We need to find out why so many units appear to be underutilized. We need to advertize our community in a way that will attract new people.

If elected to the Board of Directors, I promise to work to make Hidden Ridge the best possible community for all of us.

Lenny Kirschenbaum - I have served on the Hidden Ridge HOA Board for the last 3 terms for a total of 6 years. I am a year-round resident and I stand on my reputation for not only being the "go-to" person during the winter months, but being a team player, making the Board's work easier for all. If I am re-elected to the Board for another term, I will look forward to having a committee of people to assist during the winter months when emergencies arise or the snows! Let it not be said that we are unprepared for any and all emergencies that might happen.



Larry Miles - My wife, Meryl, and I have been a homeowner and member of the HR community for 27 years. As such, I have committed myself to serving the people at Hidden Ridge now that I am retired. Before retiring, the highlight of my career was as a division and executive vice president of a large manufacturing company which was very profitable under my leadership. I hope to bring these skills to my work on the Board, if elected.



Prior to being appointed to the Board last summer, I did odd jobs as well as committee work around the community, assisting the Board members as best I could. For example, I have distributed newsletters and documents to homeowners that are currently residing on the Ridge; I assist with the social committee; I have organized the Board office filing system to name just a few. Once I was appointed to the Board, my responsibilities included pool operation and maintenance of the gym equipment arranging for needed repairs and service to our existing equipment and possible replacements.

I have worked well with our existing Board and I am dedicated to good team play. My goal, if elected to the Board, is to make Hidden Ridge thrive from a financial perspective and to serve all the residents of our community to the best of my ability. I welcome the chance for additional work assignments to help improve our community and would be honored to become an officially elected member of our Board of Directors.

Karen Seltzer - I have been on the board for 6 years, I am responsible for all the social activities that occur in our community. In addition, I also shop for the supplies for the operation of the clubhouse and all our Saturday Night shows. I collect the money and set up the seating plans for our two shows with dinner. I call Bingo on Tuesday evenings. I also am available to help other board members with other projects. If you are an early riser, you might catch me in the pool - it is one of my joys to spend the mornings exercising and swimming in our beautiful pool. I love Hidden Ridge - some of my best times have been had with the people of this community. I hope to be re-elected so that I might continue to help enhance Hidden Ridge through hard work and social interaction.



Words to Live By



"I ask not for a lighter burden, but for broader shoulders."

~ Jewish Proverb ~

REMINDERS FROM THE BOARD

Barbeques: Barbeques may not be used on any front lawn and emptying coal on any common area is prohibited. (A fire extinguisher is recommended nearby.) You may use the barbeque away from your unit in the rear of your house. Never leave a barbeque unattended.



Outdoor Furniture: May be left on the grass areas. However, please move it to allow for lawn care from our maintenance crew/landscapers. Please do not leave outdoor furniture outside during the winter months.



Hidden Ridge Parking Stickers:

A Hidden Ridge sticker will be distributed to each homeowner or renter in the community to insure that the proper cars are in our community. Please stop by the safety booth if your car does not have one or it is lost. Place the sticker in the lower left side of the front windshield. Please do not block your field of vision with this sticker.



Antennas: Any and all TV and radio antennae are prohibited from being erected on the roof or within 2 ½ feet of the home. Satellite dishes are not allowed on any exterior surface. Any violation voids HOA responsibilities. A release will be available through the HOA to hold harmless the HOA for any damage caused by a satellite dish to your unit or any other unit or personal property.



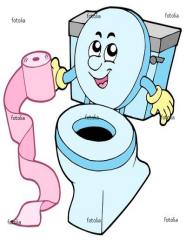
Dogs: All residents (homeowners and renters) are to register their dogs (including service dogs) with the homeowners association and provide proof of current rabies vaccination. Please send this information to the office.

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, dogs on leashes, avoiding excessive barking, etc.



Flushing: Do not flush anything but toilet paper down your toilets. **Cottenelle or other freshening wipes** will clog the sewer system and will disrupt the flow of sewerage from the community. We recently had an incident where feminine sanitary items and paper towels caused a problem in our clubhouse.



Wood: Stacking of wood for your fireplace is permitted. Do not stack the wood against your house or vinyl siding. A distance of 3 feet is recommended. A wood holder is recommended.



Landscaping: Each homeowner is responsible for the landscaping within the 3 ½ feet of their unit in the front, back and sides (if an end unit). The common grounds of our community will be maintained by the maintenance crew. If a homeowner wants to exceed the 3 ½ feet, they need approval from the Board.



HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW AND IMPROVED HIDDEN RIDGE HOA WEBSITE?



Continue to check the News and Activities pull down pages of our website weekly to see what is happening in Hidden Ridge!

If you have special pictures of places or people around and about the community, send them to the editor to be included in the Photo Gallery.

**Hidden Ridge Website: hiddenridgehoa.org
Editor: bonsdiva@aol.com**



**Volunteers needed for the Beautification Committee - please call
Ed Hertz at 845-791-7209
561-706-3301**

FROM THE PEN OF....

Peter Morello



COUGARS AMONG US

People who know me are aware that I usually don't talk much about myself. It's not because I have anything to hide, mind you, but it's because I can be rather shy at times and as a result I usually keep to myself or a small circle of friends I have made over the years.

This leads me to address rumors that have come my way based on observations a few individuals have made concerning activities at my unit. It was brought to my attention that some people have seen women of a certain age driving up to my place, parking their cars and going inside and spending what they describe as "a considerable amount of time" visiting me.

I should state at the onset that what I do in my house is my business and no one else's, but I know that will not quell the rumors and I have to walk around this community not knowing who knows what. I felt the best way to handle this was to address the rumors by writing about them in the hopes this will finally lay to rest any remaining gossip.

As you are probably aware of, I've been writing stories for the GEM for the past few years now and several folks in the community have had nice things to say about some of these stories and I greatly appreciate their encouragement and kind thoughts. You know how it works - if a person likes you, they are usually extra kind and are always willing to cut you some slack.

Over time some of the nicer compliments came from women who demonstrated an overt friendliness towards me that I must say, rather appealed to me. I don't have much of an ego in the general sense, but I think anyone who hears nice things said about themselves has a tendency to view that as a sign of encouragement and it sort of emboldens them. As a result of this and with no encouragement or coaxing from me, some ladies have become what I like to call members of the Hidden Ridge Cougars Club.

Now don't get me wrong - it's not that I'm some kind of a horn dog or anything - I do have my standards, you know. For the nosy bodies out there, let it be known here and now, I don't entertain any ladies under the age of 75! It occurred to me that, considering this is Hidden Ridge, I could really make out like a bandit here without being accused of hitting on any of the younger women in the community. Like I said before, these ladies are coming to me and they like to talk about something I've written and then - well, use your imagination as I'm sure you will. I figured who would suspect and maybe it would be viewed as a good deed or something - that is, until the rumors got out of hand.

More than once, though, I've actually had to refuse what we guys call a "sure thing." There was the time I met a lady on the Drive when I went for a walk and she asked if she could speak to me for a minute.

"Oh hi, Peter. I just finished reading your story in the GEM. I rather enjoyed it. Where do you get this stuff from?" she questioned.

"Well, it just comes from life in general - sometimes it's from a song or an experience I've had or maybe an experience a friend has had. Thanks for the compliment, ma'am," I replied.

As I started to walk away the lady stopped me and began speaking in a low voice that I had to strain to understand.

"Listen, I was thinking maybe we could get together some time and sort of hang out."

She was smiling sheepishly and seemed to eagerly be awaiting my answer.

"Well, that depends on how old you are," I replied.

"Look, I'm 71 but I'm very youthful and spry for my age and I'll be even better once I have my hip replaced. I should be as good as new. Oh, and on more thing, I really have a place for you in my heart."

She placed her right hand over her left lower abdominal area and smiled broadly. Curious as to why she was so anatomically incorrect, I decided to comment.

"Ma'am, I gotta tell you that's not where your heart is located.

With a surprised look on her face she responded - "For your information, my cardiologist told me my heart is located below my left breast."

I thought about this for a while and came to the conclusion this made perfect sense and left it alone.

"Look, I don't want to offend you but the problem is not that you're too old, it's that you're too young. I'm not interested in anyone under the age of 75."

The woman looked horrified and her mouth was slightly agape as I gave my explanation.

"How the hell old are you?" she indignantly asked.

"I'm 57 and I know this may sound unusual considering so many men are into younger women, but I just have a thing for much older women. Call them senior cougars if you want, but that's my thing, sweetheart."

"You're a sicko, you know that? You're nothing but a seniorophile."

"What's that?"

"That's the opposite of a pedophile, creep."

She walked away in utter disgust and I was so embarrassed by her outburst that I thought maybe I could fix things if I wished her luck on her impending hip surgery.

"Break a leg," I shouted to her back as she limped to her front door.

There was a similar occurrence when I met a woman who appeared to be quite a bit younger than I and that also ended in a less than favorable way. This occurred right outside the recycling shed as I was just leaving and closing the door.

(Continued from page 8, Cougars...)

She was a very attractive brunette with a shapely figure who smiled at me and inquired if I was the Peter who writes for the GEM. I smiled back and said I was the same person and asked if she enjoyed my stories.

"Yes, most are quite entertaining," she responded. "They hold my interest and my mom reads them too."

"Gee, I'm flattered. Tell your mom thanks, too."

"Oh, I will, but I was wondering if maybe we could discuss your writing style over maybe a cup of coffee of something?"

I knew there and then this was a come on but how to let her down gently was what troubled me.

"Look, I'd love to but I get this all the time and I must say that, although you're a very attractive woman, I am only interested in women who are at least 75 and you're no where near that."

"You must be joking," she angrily said. "Couldn't you come up with a better excuse than that?"

"It's not an excuse – it's a preference. Now, maybe if your mother would be interested..."

"My mother?" Now I've heard it all. Let me tell you something, I think you stink as both a person and a writer – in fact, Allan Meyers is way more entertaining than you, buster."

I thought a knife had plunged into my heart hearing the name "Allan Meyers." I mean, I like the guy and he is a good writer; witty and sardonic, but Allan Meyers? I was crushed.

"Alright, alright, I get the point – but Allan Meyers?"

I walked away with my head hung low and feeling dejected and humiliated. I didn't get the girl and was insulted.

Fortunately for me as I headed back to my cul de sac, a woman was driving by who I knew from others was 77 years young. She stopped her car and engaged me in a little small talk and I knew this was an opportunity for me to pounce even though the subject of my writing did not come up.

"Tell me something, grandma, are they real?"

"You mean my boobs," she asked smiling ear to ear.

"No, your teeth."

"Yes, they are and I just had them whitened. You don't think I'm a broken down chandelier or something, do you?"

"No, no, not at all. Listen, I live at 197 on the Drive; how about you come by at eight tonight and spend some time with me?"

"I'll be there, sonny. See you then."

These events are the ones I've chosen to share with the readers whether you have heard the rumors or not. But for the gossips who like to get into other people's lives, you now have an explanation as to why so many older women have been seen at my address. It's not me; it's they who have pursued me in earnest. Inside every one of them lurks the heart of a teenager.

As I look back at the last year and consider my successes and failures, I have only one regret: too bad Caitlyn Jenner is too young for me.

GOING GREEN

*I have found some very interesting helpful hints online for every room in the house. Here are some for your **bathroom**. I hope they work for you.*

Linda



Recycling old linens:

What's the condition of your towels? If they're faded, threadbare and holey, let them go. Take them to your local vet or animal hospital. They need your old sheets as well.

Let go of disappointments:

We all invest in products from time to time that disappoint us. We feel too guilty to let them go, letting them live on indefinitely in our cupboards as space hogs. The solution? Host a "Product Swap Party" for your friends. With everyone's hair and skin having such different needs, what disappointed you might be a great find for a friend.

Facing the bacteria:

Check the expiration date on your makeup. Separate out anything that is more than six months old, as bacteria likely resides there. Rinse and recycle all recyclable glass and plastic (making sure to check the number of the plastic, so that you don't put anything on the curb that will ultimately not be recycled).

Sort your meds:

Take a look at your medicine collection, identify what's expired, then remove the label, and rinse and save the bottles for travel purposes.

Helpful hints for everyday upkeep

- Keep a sponge handy for quick wipes of the counter every time you exit.
- The mirror gets water and toothpaste splashed at regular intervals. Keep a spray bottle of homemade cleaner and a soft cotton cloth under the sink. Spray and wipe at least once a day.
- Make your own cleaner for the countertop and the mirror by mixing equal parts vinegar and water. Vinegar has the added benefit of being both a disinfectant and a deodorizer. The smell dissipates the minute it dries.
- Straight vinegar will clean your bathroom bowl.
- When your counters need a good scrub, use baking soda! Add a little water and you'll have a natural cleaning paste.
- Remove and recycle the plastic wrap from around your soap. Soaps last longer when they've been dried out a bit.

Why was the Wellness Center switched to Bailey Lake?

There were rumors circulating around our community based on statements that were taken out of context from the minutes of the Town of Thompson Planning Board. The meeting dealt with the relocation of the Viera Wellness Center, originally scheduled to be built on the land that was once Kutsher's Country Club on Kutsher Road. The rumor was spread that there was possibility of hazardous materials infiltrating our water supply that comes from wells on the Kutsher property.

At a recent Planning Board meeting, I spoke to Glenn Smith, the engineer for Veria who made the statement that was recorded in the minutes of March 25, 2015 and Abhay Jain, Project Manager for Veria who was quoted in a January edition of the *Sullivan Democrat*. Both gentlemen verbally assured me that there was NOTHING hazardous found underground. Mr. Jain did say that asbestos was found in the buildings, which we had already knew about. The following letter was sent on behalf of our community by the Board of Directors to both Mr. Smith and Mr. Jain:

June 1, 2015

Glenn L. Smith, Engineer
Abhay Jain, Project Manager, Veria Lifestyle

We, the Board of Directors of the Hidden Ridge Homeowners Association, on behalf of our 150 homeowners, are writing to you for clarification of some statements that were made regarding the changing of the site for the Veria Lifestyle Wellness Center.

In an article written by Dan Hust for the Democrat, in January 2015, Abhay Jain, Veria spokesman was quoted as follows: "The extent of HAZMAT encountered on the Kutsher's hotel site - let alone, the extensive remediation required to abate it - has delayed our demolition schedule by a number of months."

We, the Hidden Ridge Community, would like to know where the "HAZMAT" was found.

In a statement in the minutes of the March 25, 2015 Planning Board Meeting, on page three, paragraph 5, when referring to the agenda item, Veria Lifestyle at Bailey Lake and the change in location from the Kutsher site to the Bailey Lake site, it states the following: "Mr. Smith advised that it was because of what his client found underground, that they had to change the plans. In any event, this is a much nicer project."

Rumors have already been spread among our residents indicating that what was found was hazardous and may affect our community. Due to previous experiences, we feel it is imperative to get to the bottom of this issue.

We, the Hidden Ridge Community, demand to know what was found underground especially since that ground is now being dug up. Is the material found hazardous? Does it affect our water supply?

Our water supply comes from the Crystal Water Supply Company that is still under the ownership of Mark Kutsher. We are concerned about contamination of our water supply that flows from the Kutsher site to our homes. There have been a few instances when the demolition crew has hit and ruptured a water main on the Kutsher site this past spring. This necessitated the shutting down of the entire system until repairs were made. Even when the repairs were made, we were on a

"boil water order" from the Department of Health until the water was tested and deemed safe for consumption.

What assurances can be made to the Hidden Ridge community that our water is safe? Again, what materials were found underground and are they hazardous? Where and to what extent was HAZMAT identified on their property?

We would appreciate a written response that can be shared with our residents.

If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie R. Siegel, President, at 917 -969- 9646 or Siegelmath@aol.com.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

The Board of Directors
Hidden Ridge Homeowners Association, Inc

The following is the response that we recently received:

Dear Bonnie,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Veria Lifestyle project.

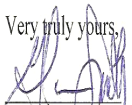
Regarding your specific question on what "Hazmat" was found, several of the old hotel buildings were constructed with asbestos insulation and sound mitigation materials, currently considered hazardous by governmental regulations. The removal and remediation of those materials where found, in accordance with NYS Dept. of Labor regulations, took considerably longer than originally anticipated. This work is now essentially completed and the site is being restored.

Regarding the March 25, 2015 town planning board minutes you quoted, the reference to my statement about what our client found "underground" is obviously misquoted, since I have never been informed or advised nor otherwise made aware of any "underground" issues, either positive or negative, at that site. I'm certain my remarks were referencing the above-noted buildings issues as found "on the grounds" that prompted the change in site location.

Your primary water supply is provided by drilled wells located on the south side of Kutsher Road, with two excellent secondary wells near Anawana Lake, all disinfected prior to entering the distribution piping. Those wells are tested frequently by Mr. Kutsher's staff and consistently found to be of satisfactory sanitary quality as related to NYS Department of Health regulations for community water supplies. Those wells will continue to be sampled and tested by NYS Certified Laboratories to insure their potability.

I trust the above is sufficient for your use.

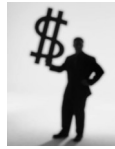
Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Glenn L. Smith, P.E.

PS

We have been apprised that after the wellness center is completed at Bailey Lake, construction will begin at the site of the old Kutsher's Hotel. In the planning stage is a renovated clubhouse for the golf course, a boutique hotel and conference center. We will continue to keep abreast of the plans and keep you posted.

The Treasurer's Report



Balances as of June 30, 2015:

Operating Account:	\$118,185.25
Money Market:	\$ 20,013.16
Reserve Account:	\$151,242.09
Total:	\$289,440.50

The audit for the fiscal year ending April 2015 is in process with Knack, Pavloff and Company. Copies will be distributed to owners later this month.

The Board has worked to create a balanced budget that does not increase monthly maintenance fees. A major portion of the budget is to address maintenance issues and salaries of our staff.

Budget May 1, 2015 – April 30, 2016

INCOME

Late Fees	3500
Maintenance Fees	585000
Other Income	10000
Rental Fees	8400
Transfer Fees	5850
TOTAL INCOME	\$612,750

EXPENSES

Audit	9750
Billing/Accounting	9000
Cable/Phone	3800
Clubhouse Expenses	
Entertainment	22000
Maintenance	9000
Electric	12000
Franchise Tax	600
Heating/Gas (pool and clubhouse)	13000
Insurance	25000
Legal Fees	5000
License & Fees	500
Maintenance	
Gas	4300
General	60000
Octagon Windows	22500
Paving	20000
Retaining Walls	5000
Roof Repairs	50000
Maintenance Equipment Purchase	25000
Maintenance for Equipment	5000
Maintenance Equipment Rental	500
Meeting and Entertainment Expense	7000
Office Expense	6000
Payroll Expenses	
Maintenance	147000
Safety	42300
Payroll Taxes	
FICA Expense	11835
FUI Expense	375
Medicare Expense	2750
SUI Expense	8550
Pest Control	10800
Pool Maintenance	14325
Real Estate Taxes	500
Refuse Removal	11000
Safety – Gas Allowance	2600
Uniforms	750
Water	45000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$612,750
INCOME OVER EXPENSES	0

ELECTIONS 2015 ARE COMING!

Election packets were distributed or mailed to all homeowners recently. The letter explains that the annual meeting will be held on Sunday August 2, 2015 in the Clubhouse at 10:30 AM. There will be an election for three members of the Board of Directors. Currently there are four candidates running. They are: Fred Hirsh, Leonard Kirschenbaum, Larry Miles and Karen Seltzer. They have each written something about themselves that appears on page 6. They will be available for questions on July 19, 2015 at 10:30 AM at the "Meet the Candidates" meeting.

In addition, we are asking the homeowners to vote on whether or not we should eliminate the midnight to 8:00 AM shift of our safety patrol, effective October 16, 2015. Currently this shift is only in effect from May 15 to October 15. We are also asking to adjust the current afternoon/evening shift presently 4:00 PM - midnight so that the shift would be from 6:00 PM - 2:00 AM, also effective October 16, 2015.

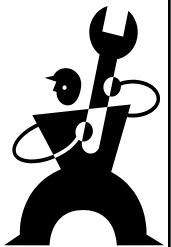
If you cannot attend the meeting in person, we encourage you to either send in an absentee ballot that was enclosed in your envelope or designate someone to vote on your behalf (proxy also included in your envelope).

It is extremely important that everyone participates in the Annual meeting in one of the three ways listed (in person, by absentee ballot, or by proxy). At times in the past we have literally had to pull people out of bed to make a quorum.

This is your community- everyone has a say in how it operates - come out and vote!

MAINTENANCE REQUEST FORMS

ALL requests for exterior maintenance must be written on **Maintenance Service Request Forms**. Use one form per request. Copies may be picked up in the **pocket envelope** on the bulletin board. All requests should be placed in the **maintenance mailbox** on the right side of the main bulletin board.



IF THE HOA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK, USE THE REQUEST FORMS. IF THE WORK IS FOR YOU PERSONALLY, PLEASE ARRANGE WITH THE WORKER(S) TO DO THE WORK AFTER THEIR HIDDEN RIDGE WORK DAY. THANK YOU!

If you have any questions regarding maintenance, please contact Lenny Kirschenbaum or Bonnie Siegel. Enclosed is a copy for your convenience. Thank you.

For Your Information

Terry's Fitness & Health Corner



Stress management and Food Choices

Submitted by Terry Steinberg

Surveys and research suggest most Americans experience unhealthy levels of stress which diminishes their quality of life. Unfortunately, many of the same people reach for "comfort foods" to help them feel better, but these foods are usually filled with fats and sugar which are counter-productive. Repeatedly triggering the stress response takes its toll on us. Stress has the side effects of high blood pressure, impaired relationships, anxiety, depression, obesity, addiction and other conditions such as back pain, insomnia and cardiovascular disease. While the following food choices listed below, may not make the stress go away, they could reduce these negative health effects and help you to stay healthy in spite of chronic stress. It's worth a try!

These foods are easy to get and even easier to make part of your daily diet.

1. Turkey, fish, dairy (low fat Greek yogurt and cheese), soy and pumpkin seeds contain high amounts of tryptophan, which is associated with the "happiness hormone" serotonin.
2. Broccoli, Brussels sprouts and asparagus loaded with folic acid, also associated with serotonin production, which may lessen depression.
3. Oatmeal and other complex carbohydrates can also stimulate the brain to produce serotonin. These types of foods are healthier choices as comfort foods and are absorbed more slowly than empty carbs, but still make you feel full and satisfied.
4. Oranges, grapefruit, red and green peppers and other fruits and veggies are rich in Vitamin C which can aid in lowering blood levels and stress hormones like cortisol and adrenaline.
5. Crunchy veggies, like celery and carrot sticks, air popped corn and healthy chewing gum don't possess any nutritional content for fighting stress per se, but the "crunchy, chewing sensation that comes from munching them seems to provide mechanical stress relief. (And remember to visit the web site purefoodlove.com to get amazing recipes and advice on eating clean which automatically helps the effects of stress on the body. It's free and it is fabulous. You will be amazed!)

Social Committee

Karen Seltzer, Chair



The social season is well under way at Hidden Ridge. It started with a large group for our Welcome Back breakfast with everyone enjoying seeing their friends from last season. They also made some new friends with our latest H.R. residents.

The July fourth dinner show starred Shirley Alston Reeves of the Shirelles. I am thrilled that 120 people signed up for dinner and that did not include those that came just for the show. It was a wonderful evening. The list of the upcoming shows and events is listed here at the bottom of the page and on the bulletin board by the mailbox. They will also be posted on the web site: hiddenridtgehoa.com.

July 11th will be Pot Luck Dessert night. Everyone attending the show should bring a dessert to share with a few people. This has always been a huge success and I'm sure it will be again. July 7th was our first big bucks Bingo at 7:30 PM. July 9th began our Movie night at 8:00 PM with Billy Crystal's *700 Sundays*.

We continue our Canasta tournament on Monday and Wednesday nights. We are planning some different and fun activities, so make sure you check for them!

Anyone willing to help set up the Clubhouse for Saturdays, please come at 9:30 AM.

I'm looking forward to a busy and wonderful season. See you around the Ridge!

Entertainment for July and August

July 11	Tommy Sullivan
July 18	Ladies Comedy Night featuring Carrie Karavis and Talia Reiss Dancing with a One Man Band
July 25	The Sensational Nicholas King
August 1	The Amazing Jon Stetson

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.

Monday/Wednesday Night Canasta Tournament Weekly Winners

June 8

Thelma Friedenthal
Shari List
Fran Zatz
Isabel Streisand
Helen/Sol Klein

June 10

Arnie Plotsky
Helene Schulman
Isabel Streisand
Jeff Lynn

June 15

Shari List
Thelma F.
Arnie Plotsky
Helene Schulman

June 17

Joe Schoenfeld
Mitzi Schoenfeld
Arnie Plotsky
Shari List

June 22

Meryl Miles
Helen Klein
Helene Schulman
Mitzi Schoenfeld
Lena Rubin

June 29

Isabel Streisand
Warren Streisand
Helene Schulman
Meryl Miles

July 1

Harriet Fox
Isabel Streisand
Joe Shoenfeld
Mitzi Shoenfeld

July 6

Larry Miles
Karen Seltzer
Meryl Miles
Corrine Needleman
Helen Badain
Thelma Friedenthal

July 8

Isabel Streisand
Bea Freedlander
Thelma Friedenthal
Karen Seltzer
Joyce Bragin
Linda Solomon

50-50 Winners

July 4 - Alice Chiappetta

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.

H.R. Club News



Since no one has come forward to lead the book club for the month of July, it is now disbanded.

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Long Range Planning Committee Update

The Long Range Planning Committee has been working to research and recommend capital improvements that will make our community more attractive to prospective buyers. They have developed a survey based upon their findings for the membership to consider. The survey will be available in the next two weeks for your consideration. Please take some time to respond to the survey. We thank you in advance for your input.





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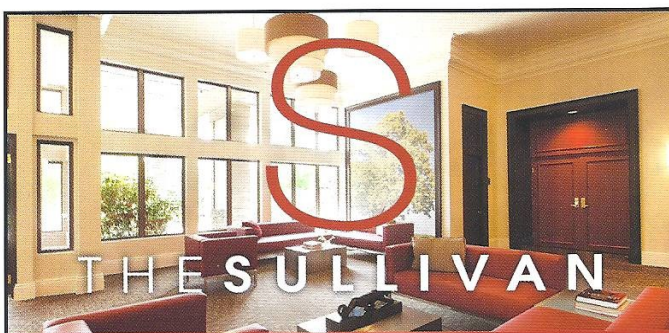
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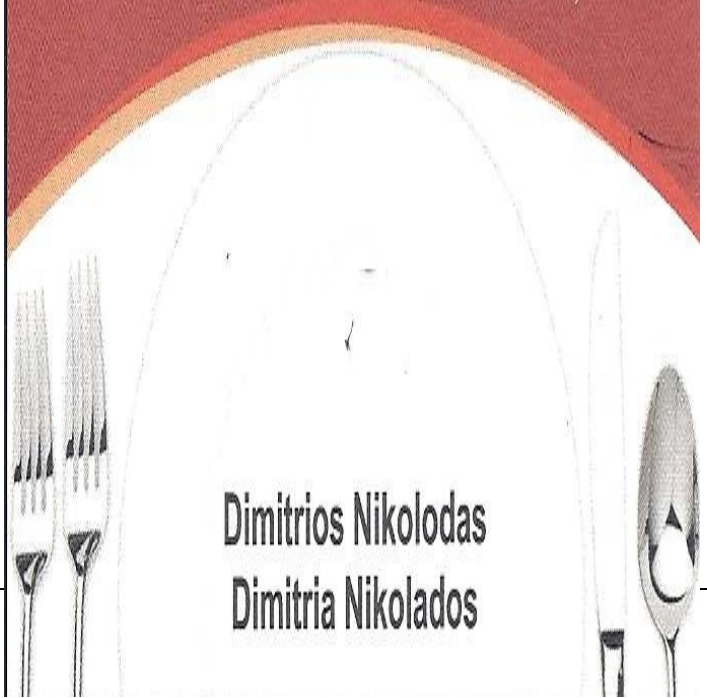
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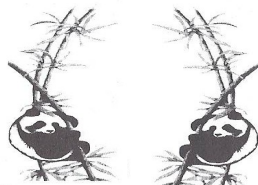
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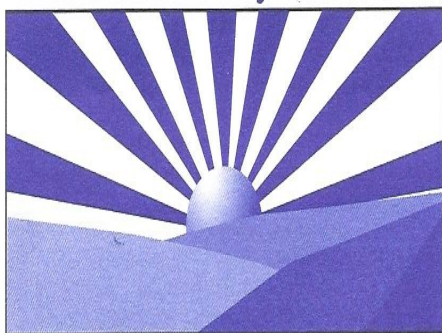
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Issue 15-03



Hidden Ridge Directory Information Sheet

Please complete the following form and return it with your maintenance payment. Return this form if there are any recent changes.

Name: _____

Hidden Ridge Address: _____ Phone: _____

The following information will be kept confidential.

However, it will be included in the Hidden Ridge Directory if you check the appropriate line(s). Please indicate below.

☐ *I want my alternate address/es and phone numbers included in the Hidden Ridge Directory.*

Alternate Address #1: _____

Phone: _____

☐ *I want my cell phone number/s included in the Hidden Ridge Directory.*

Cell Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

☐ *I want my email address/es included in the Hidden Ridge Directory.*

Email Address #1: _____ Email Address #2: _____

☐ *I want my birthday/s (list name/date for more than one) and anniversary listed in the GEM*

Birthdays _____ Anniversary _____