

The Hidden Ridge GEM September 2020 Issue 20-05



A Message from the Board of Directors

We, the Board of Directors of the Hidden Ridge Homeowners Association, are committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive community where all people are welcome regardless of race, color, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender identity. At Hidden Ridge we celebrate the diversity of all our residents and their families and friends. We know that this makes our community stronger and more vibrant and enduring.

We unequivocally stand against the systemic racism that has plagued our nation since its inception and has been recently exposed in the form of violence directed specifically against the African American community. We also stand against the disturbing rise in violent anti-Semitism and increased violence against other marginalized peoples in our nation and worldwide.

The President's Message



From the Editor

Dear Hidden Ridgers:

September has always been a new beginning for me. As a child and then as an educator it meant the start of a new school year. In my religion, it means the start of a new year is coming. This September is no exception at Hidden Ridge. We, the Board of Directors, are embarking on a new beginning as we are in the process of hiring a property management company that will work with us to help us achieve our goals. Now I cannot say much more about it right, but I promise you will hear all the details as we get more involved in the process!

There are several other items of importance that I need to bring to your attention:

Homeowners received information last month about a water surcharge. Please read the article on **page 11** regarding newly proposed increased charges and how you can assist the Board and protesting them.

Last month we reported that we had applied for a loan to cover the expenses for several roofs. Thank you to the Board for coming together and working on that project. See the article on **page 9** to see what happened.

For those homeowners who are leaving for the winter - do not forget to read the article on **page 4** regarding the curb values as well as the article on **page 9** about closing up your unit.

We are planning a meeting of our winter residents in October. The meeting will be hosted on Zoom. Watch for an email announcement for that. We will be asking all winter residents (full timers or those who come up on weekends or holidays) to complete the Winter at Hidden Ridge Form when it is available. See the article on **page 9** for additional information.

A page of corrections/additions for our summer directory will be sent as an attachment to an email later this week. These corrections will be incorporated in future directories.

Please make sure that we have your most up to date contact information – address (if you are a seasonal resident) as well as current email and phone numbers. Please email me at siegelmath@aol.com or call me at 917 969 9646 with any updates.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, our wish for everyone in the coming year is health and prosperity. May we all return to our Jewel in the Catskills next aummer!

Stay safe, and stay healthy!

Bonnie

Hello Fellow Hidden Ridgers,

Jewish High Holidays are once again upon us. Where did the year go? I can't tell you how much I miss being up at Hidden Ridge right now. I am so missing the colors of autumn as the leaves go from green to yellow to orange to red to brown. Oh, and the smells of the leaves as the breeze wisps them around! And the feel of the cool winds blowing. Here in Florida it is always hot, hot, hot! But I digress.

My focus now is on the holidays as we finish the Jewish month of Elul which coincides with August and September right up to Rosh Hashanah. As is customary, at this time each year, we seek forgiveness for our shortcomings, not only from G-d, but also from our family and friends. So here is my fervent prayer and I hope I can find forgiveness for my wrongdoings.

Wishing all our Jewish family and friends a healthy and peaceful New Year. And to all of you who are not of the faith, I wish you good health and peace throughout the coming winter. I pray we will all be together again next summer.

Linda

TO THOSE I MAY HAVE WRONGED, I ASK FOR YOUR FORGIVENESS.

FOR THOSE I MAY HAVE HELPED, I WISH I COULD HAVE DONE MORE.

FOR THE MANY I NEGLECTED TO HELP, I AM TRULY SORRY.

TO THOSE WHO HELPED ME, I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL.





Turning on and off your water to your unit? – Read this first Important Information regarding curb valves

Issues have arisen regarding who is responsible for making repairs to broken curb valves. In order to avoid this problem, the Board recommends you use Crystal Water Supply Company Inc. to open the curb valve at the beginning of the season and to close the curb valve at the end of the season.

Please call Allan Schacknovsky at 845-798-5121 to have your curb valve turned on or off. Crystal Water has promised that Allan or its designated representative will turn the curb valve on or off within 48 hours of notice. The cost will be \$50 to open the valve and \$50 to close the valve.

Members are not required to use Crystal Water to open and close the curb valve. However, if you use Crystal Water to open and close your curb valve and the valve is broken, Crystal Water will be responsible for making repairs. If you do not use Crystal Water, you will be responsible for making repairs including calling 1-800-DIG so underground utilities lines can be located, making arrangements for any necessary excavations and paying all costs incurred for the repair of the curb valve.

You may use anyone you want to drain the pipes and the hot water heater inside your unit. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Siegel at 917-969-9646 or Fred Hirsh at 516-639-0238.

SELLING YOUR UNIT? PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, the following was approved:

The transfer fee on the sale of a unit has been increased to \$2500 on all transfers that take place pursuant to contracts of sale entered into on or after September 15, 2020. The transfer fee is paid by the buyer at the time of closing.

MAINTENANCE REQUEST FORMS

ALL requests for exterior maintenance must be written on Maintenance Service Request Forms. Use one form per request. Forms submitted with more than one item on it, will be returned for revision to the homeowner. 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 you have any questions regarding maintenance, please contact Lenny Kirschenbaum or Bonnie Siegel.



A NOTE REGARDING OUR GARBAGE DUMPSTERS

All residents of Hidden Ridge are reminded that garbage is collected on Tuesday and Friday. Household garbage only must be placed in the dumpsters. **Items not placed in the dumpsters will not be collected!** If you are having work done in your unit, please have the contractor make arrangements for disposing of the construction debris. If you have large items such as appliances, beds or furniture, please make arrangements to have the company delivering the new item haul away the old item and the packing for the new item or contact Thompson Sanitation at 845-796-1032 to arrange for a bulk sanitation pick up.



THE RECYCLING SHED WILL REMAIN OPEN ALL WINTTER

PLEASE FOLLOW TOWN OF THOMPSON GUIDELINES Short List of Do's and Don'ts of Recycling

Recycling Shed Newspapers tied in bundles

Brown corrugated cardboard, flattened and tied Clear glass bottles and jars Plastics **Regular Garbage** Cardboard, paper bags, small books, magazines

Cereal boxes, shoe boxes, soda cartons, etc.

Bottle caps and tops Removed caps

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO MEMBERS WORK ON THE EXTERIOR OF YOUR UNIT By Fred Hirsh

Over the past several months, members have performed or commenced work on the exterior of their unit that required Board approval without obtaining approval from the Board.

Any changes or modifications you are planning to make to the exterior of your unit needs approval of the Board. Before you do any work on the exterior of your unit such as painting a door, changing the windows or doors or basement doors, replacing a storm door. constructing a deck, patio or shed, and/or affixing anything on the exterior of the unit please consult with the Board to determine if you need Board approval before the work commences. ALL WRITING. REOUESTS MUST BE IN Please submit your plans to Ben Lorick or Brian Kudler, Co-Chairs of the Architectural Control Committee.

Their telephone numbers are on Page 2 of The Gem.

FROM THE PEN OF.... **Peter Morello**



AT FOURTEEN

Here is Peter's wonderful reminiscence of his fourteenth year after delighting with his thirteenth. Peter and I hope you enjoy the next episode of his teenage years.



Morello

eptember 1971 and I'm four months away from turning fourteen. I'm in my first year of high school and my mind is transfixed on taking the big exam in November. My best friend from childhood, Stephen Ramirez, attended an intermediate school and was able to take the

test for Science in the eighth grade. He did well enough to gain admittance further putting pressure on me to do the same in November.

Over the summer I studied the Barron's prep book on the entrance exam that Dad bought me with almost religious fervor. I did every math problem and memorized hundreds of words and their meanings to do well on the word association part of the exam. If I didn't make the school it was off to my brother's alma mater, Theodore Roosevelt High School. In the ten years since he attended that school it had transformed into an academic cesspool of failure and despair but nonetheless it was in my district and we couldn't afford a private school like Fordham Prep or even one of the Catholic high schools. Imagine a kid like me who attended public school all his life going to Catholic school – I would be excommunicated in a heartbeat and my photo would be hung in every rectory in the city.

Finally November 13th rolled around and it seemed that no amount of additional preparation would be enough to convince me that I had the ability to do well enough on the specialized high school exam. I found the test challenging to say the least and felt whatever confidence I had built up inside me was quickly evaporating especially after returning to school and listening to Howard Zucker brag about how easy the test was. I envisioned a seat with his name on it waiting for him when he arrived and that the school administrators would carry him into his first class on a gold-plated throne while others scattered rose petals on the walkway as the rest of us cheered him on. What an unnerving and painful time that was and listening to him talk only made it worse. Besides, he had already skipped two grade levels and was only twelve years old at most compared to the rest of us thirteen year old's. Ouch!

I wasn't alone in taking the big test - my friends from first grade on, Jimmy Bruno and Robert Spanti as well as my recent classmates, Howard Schwartz and Eric Miller took it as well and some of the other girls in the class. I really wanted them all to be admitted since they were all very studious and nice people to be around and I enjoyed their company.

Christmas came and went in a blur as my mind was elsewhere. As the calendar turned to 1972 I was transfixed on the month of March – not because I was necessarily looking forward to spring but because that's when I was told the results would be in. I was slowly panicking.

Each morning I followed a routine as most of us are wont to do. I would get ready for school and listen to music on the radio as my parents went about their routine getting ready for work. My brother Sal had been married since December 1970 and was no longer competing for the bathroom. Like clockwork, Robert Spanti would a rrive at my apartment from around the corner at 7:30 and together we would walk to JHS 45 and stop briefly to pick up James Bruno who lived along the way.

Sometime in mid March Robert arrived as he always did and he had a funny look on his face and he seemed anxious to tell me something.

"Peter, listen. You know my mother is on the P.T.A., right?

"Yeah, sure, what about it?"

"Don't say anything to anyone and keep it to yourself until you're officially told but she found out the results of the test and you made Science but Jimmy and I didn't. You won't say anything, will you?"

I felt my heart leap inside my chest and my breathing became heavy and labored. I was now in the same company of Howard Zucker – what an honor.

"No, of course I won't say anything. Your secret is safe with me."

We were standing by the front door to the apartment and I looked down the hall towards the bedroom where my mother was dressing. My father had already left for work and it was just the two of us who were still at home.

"Ma, Ma, I did it. I did it!" So much for keeping a secret and acting naturally.

My mother came running from the bedroom while still zipping up her dress and looked excited.

"What's wrong and why are you yelling? What did vou do?

"I made Science. Robert just told me because Rosemarie is on the P.T.A. so she found out." I realized my happiness was tempered by the fact that my two friends didn't make it but as I later discovered, they scored just below the cutoff point and were allowed to go to summer school for some remedial work under the Discovery Program. Once they completed the program, they were able to attend the school because ten percent of the seats were reserved for such students. Of course I also envisioned Zucker teaching the class.

Mom reached out to me and gave me a big kiss and hugged me tightly.

"I knew you could do it and I'm so happy for you. She then released me from her grip and looked me straight in the eye and said, "Now you have to buckle down and do well there because the competition is tough. Don't mess things up by slacking off, do you hear me?" This was typical of my mother and it became sort of the Ying and Yang of Italian culture and I was used to this by now. Continued on page 7

Cul-de-Sac Liaisons Cul-de-Sac Numbers Liaison

Azaleas	15-25D	Karen Seltzer
Birch	29-43D	Michael Zwicker
Camellias	59-73D	Betty Fuchs
Daffodils	89-103D	Fran Zatz
Elms	107-125D	Julia Glaz
Firs	149-171D	Lenny Kirschenbaum
Gardenias	173-187D	Shelly Kleinberger
Hemlocks	193-205D	Michael Valcin
Iris	196-214D	Mariano Ambroselli
Juniper	126-148D	Jeff Lynn
Kerrias	74-96D	Eddie Erlich
Laurels	44-58D	Robbie Schecter
Magnolias	29-43T	Sheila Cole
Narcissus	45-58T	Joe Gluck
Oaks	28-46T	Randi Berkowitz
Petunias	6-26T	JoAnn Epifania
Roses	8-14D	Karen Seltzer

Welcome New Neighbors



Donna Cannon 119 HR Drive

Myrna Kroff 14 HR Drive (renter)

Get Well Wishes Rich Delia Maxine Kopp Steven Kopp Iris Lynn Adrienne Meyers Sue Mc Mahon Bill Stevens



Wishing them a full and speedy recovery

We offer condolences to friends and family of

MEL PERLMAN Partner of Sharlene Perez

May his memory be for a blessing.



Continue from page 5, Peter Morello At Fourteen

A couple of days later I along with several of my classmates who took the exam, were summoned to the office of our guidance counselor, Mr. Erlich, who was going to give us the results. I went over in my head how to act surprised but made sure not to overact like Jackie Gleason and make it seem obvious that I knew. When he told me the results I let out a few "Oh boys" and thanked him and mentioned how proud my parents would be when I got home to tell them the good news. I think I did a credible job because he didn't seem suspicious.

On that same day I was walking up the steps while going from one class to another when I came across my classmate, Denise McNair. "Peter, did you hear that Howard didn't make Science," she enquired.

"Come on, Denise, that can't be true. There's got to be some mistake."

"No, it's true and he did quite poorly from what I heard – he can't even go to summer school to later gain entry."

I thought there must be some mistake and couldn't fathom how this could be true. Zucker with the colored pencils and wild hand-waiving didn't score high enough?

As I pondered this Zucker was coming up the stairs from Erlich's office and was crying uncontrollably. Another classmate of mine, Karen Montemorra, was passing by and heard what Denise had said to me and noticed Zucker was crying. "Howard, you didn't make Science – really?

"Shut the hell up and leave me alone," bellowed Zucker as he ran up the stairs wiping his tears away.

Initially I felt glee in the knowledge that this runt had failed at something but quickly began to feel sorry for him and realized it was immaturity and arrogance that spoiled it from him, not a lack of intelligence.

If the name Howard Zucker sounds familiar to you it's because he's the New York State Health Commissioner. He became even more of an overachiever later in life by becoming at the age of twenty-two one of the youngest doctors in our county's history and became board certified in more than one specialty and earned an advanced degree in law as well. It sounds like he had the last laugh and I'm sure no one in his social circle really knows what happened in 1972.

The next three months went by quickly and I was very happy to graduate from JHS 45 with its increasing violence and malevolence by the students towards the teachers. This was a larger reflection of what was to come in society in future years and I can't imagine what it's like today almost half a century after I graduated.

One day in May, I was walking home from school and as I was coming down my block from Crotona Avenue, I noticed a group of teenagers about my age hanging out on the steps in front of a three family house. None of them were from the neighborhood and they were wearing the unmistakable denim jackets of a gang called "The Bronx Enterprise." On the back of the jackets was a big red dot several inches across - very similar to the Japanese flag. When they saw me walk past them that's when the action started. *Continued on page 8*



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 frolic acid, also associated with serotonin production, which may lesson 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!) "Hey, man, what you doin' in our neighborhood," one of them said as four of them came down the steps and followed me.

"I live here, that's what I'm doin' here."

"Well this is our neighborhood now and we don't want you here."

As soon as this exchange finished, the guy with the big mouth put an electrical cord around my neck from behind and began to pull me in a circle to bring me down. He was having a hard time getting me down and this seemed to anger him even more. After several spins around I decided to go down. I covered up and he began to whip me several times with the cord causing defensive marks on my forearms, the back of my hands and the back of my neck. Then the four of them stomped on me a few times for good measure before dispersing. I got up, picked up my books and went the rest of the way home never seeing those cockroaches again.

I wasn't hurt badly – just shaken up a bit. This was the final tipping point in the neighborhood and the change was more or less complete. Five years earlier in 1967, my parents had applied for public housing and we were still waiting and getting more desperate as the months ticked by. Our first choice was the Pelham Parkway Houses which were only about two miles away but it was a completely different place in which to live.

The real issue came later when my father found out what had happened. He wanted to go after the people responsible and I believed he would. Fortunately, the gang left and we eventually forgot about the incident. Years before, such an incident would never occur and this was a reminder of how far the pendulum had swung towards urban decay.

Once the summer arrived, I began my first year as a C.I.T. at Mount Carmel Day Camp and this meant everything was free and next year I could actually be paid as a counselor. Sadly, once the summer ended, I learned that the camp was folding due to increasing expenses and the realization that parents in the struggling Belmont neighborhood could only afford so much and no more. This was the second Catholic day camp that I had attended that went out of business with the first being Saint Martin of Tours. The pleasant experiences I had during those carefree summers I have carried with me all these years and I now realize how lucky I was to have lived during that time.

In September 1972 I started my sophomore year at Bronx Science and it quickly became apparent it would be everything I had hoped for. It was a stimulating environment to say the least and I quickly made friends with what seemed to be a bunch of Howard Zuckers but at least they had a much better personality than he did. Eric Miller and Howard Schwartz also had made the cut and Robert and Jimmy who attended summer school were with me as well as were a few other people who took the test. Shockingly, Zucker was the only one in my ninth grade class that wasn't admitted who took the exam. I felt safe in my new school and didn't have to look over my shoulder for some wise guy who was out for no good. On the other hand, I still lived in the same foreboding neighborhood that was now a mere shell of what it once was. Almost everyone I knew had moved and we were the last remaining remnants of what once was.

Around the beginning of December my mother informed me of some good news – a letter had arrived in the mail informing our family that we had been accepted for a four room apartment at the Pelham Parkway Houses and they wanted to arrange a showing of the apartment and perform the necessary paperwork.

We were all overjoyed at our good fortune having known that neighborhood for so long as we would drive by on our way to Glen Island Park. We would marvel at how people could sit outside like human beings without fearing for their lives and how nice and clean the surroundings appeared. All of this existed a mere stone's throw from where I was born. It felt like we were going to a different state and not a different neighborhood. How something so beautiful could be found so close to from where we came perplexed me; but, I knew I was safe now and so were my parents.

Our good fortune would be a pleasant way to celebrate my fifteenth birthday.



HIDDEN RIDGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION LOAN

Warren Berkowitz

As you are aware, the HOA is responsible for the repair and replacement of each roof in the community. Since the community is approximately 35 years old, we have encountered a significant number of roof problems all at one time.

The expense incurred in recent times has drained our reserve account and has even exceeded what we were financially capable of spending. After much research we were able to reach an agreement with Jeff Bank to borrow funds specifically to cover the cost of the roof repairs. This was accomplished through a construction loan that required us to spend the funds only on the roofs. We were also able to secure additional funding to replace some funds we previously expended on roof repairs to replenish the reserve account. The Bank did limit that amount.

To be more specific, the amount we borrowed was \$400,000 in total, with \$135,000 of that amount being returned to our reserve account. The loan will need to be paid off in monthly installments for 60 months, based on a 10 year payout schedule, with a balloon payment due at the end of the 60 months.

Hopefully, this will resolve our roof problems for awhile. Please feel free to contact Warren Berkowitz with any questions you might have.

GET THE LEAD OUT!!! By Robbie Schecter

As many of you know, I have been involved with cleaning up the water for Hidden Ridge since 2009. More recently, testing of my water revealed that levels of lead in the water from my kitchen tap were over the limit for safe consumption. I learned that it was possible that corrosion of lead pipes or plumbing fixtures can result in lead in tap water. Interestingly, lead water pipes were used in our area until outlawed in 1986.

You can reduce lead in your water to safe levels by "letting it run." Water that stands idle in pipes for long periods of time, such as overnight or if you are out at work all day, is more likely to absorb materials from the plumbing system.

The best way to rid your water of possible lead contamination is to let the cold water faucet run for at least 30 seconds to one minute, before you consume it or use it for washing produce, cooking, etc.

The water you let run from your faucets does not have to be wasted. You can use this water for cleaning purposes, or for watering plants.

Also, use only cold water, after letting it run, for drinking or cooking. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water, so don't use hot water from faucet for drinking or cooking. Never use hot water for baby formula.

GETTING READY FOR WINTER AT HIDDEN RIDGE

The following is a short summary of items you should be aware of as we go from summer to fall into winter at Hidden ridge;

If you are leaving Hidden Ridge for the winter, don't forget to:

- Stop delivery of the newspapers
- Advise the post office of the change of address
- Call the cable and phone company to place your service on vacation mode.
- Call a plumber to turn off your water and prepare your pipes for the winter (See the article on page 4 regarding the curb valves)
- Make sure your windows and doors are closed and locked. Set your burglar alarm

If you will be using your unit this winter:

- Make sure you have adequate insulation in your attics especially if you are leaving your heat on
- Some homeowners have installed heat tape on their roof. These owners have not experienced any problems from ice damming especially in the valleys

Snow Removal:

There will be snowplowing on the main roads, cul de sacs and walkways.

IMPORTANT

Be advised that effective October. 15, 2020 through May 15, 2021 all homeowners will be required to park any vehicle that will remain unused, or stored on common property for a period longer that 10 days are to park said vehicle in the parking lot by the Clubhouse. Vehicles left parked n the cul de sac for more than 10 days may be towed at the owner's expense. If you require the use of your vehicle during this time, please call the appropriate person in a timely manner so it can be made accessible for you.

A Meeting of the Winter Residents is being planned for a date in October. Watch your email for details.

Who Should I Call?

The following was sent as an email to all residents recently. Please keep it handy for future reference:

Please be advised that Lenny Kirschenbaum is **not to be contacted by any member or resident** for any HOA issue except if your roof is actively leaking; a tree has fallen on or near your residence; or you have been specifically told to do so by a member of the Hidden Ridge Board of Directors.

Lenny will respond to calls regarding transmitters and mailbox keys (Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM). All calls received after 5:00 PM or on weekends will be listened to and you will receive a call back during the next business day.

For all other matters, please call **845-794-8180** and leave a message. Your call will be returned within two business days. Please make sure you leave your contact number and the nature of your call.

MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

All regular maintenance requests are to be submitted on a Maintenance Request Form. Maintenance Request Forms are available by the bulletin board by the old security booth near the Friedman Road entrance and on the Hidden Ridge web site, www.hiddenridgehoa.org. These forms should be completed, one request per form, and be deposited in the mail box on the right side of the bulletin board by the Friedman Road entrance. You will be notified by the HOA within 48 hours of the filing of the request if the work requested is not the HOA responsibility. Do not contact Lenny Kirschenbaum to ask when the work will be performed.

The following are some phone numbers that you may find helpful:

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Medical Emergency - 911 Police - 911 Sullivan County Sheriff 845-794-7100 New York State Police Liberty Barracks 845-292-6600.

Fire - 911 or Monticello Fire Department - 845-794-5121

EXTERMINATOR

Ehrlich Pest Control 845-421-8020 Please advise the person answering the phone you are a resident of Hidden Ridge.

UTILITIES

Electric - NYSEG - 800-572-1131 for outages or service interruption Cable - Spectrum - 1-855-707-7328 Land line phone not provided by cable - Verizon -1-800-Verizon Sewer - Sullivan Infra West - 732-486-2831 Water - Crystal Water - Allan Schacknovsky - 845-798-5121

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONERS- Individual Homeowner's responsibility Black Bear Fuel Oil- Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning-845-791-8900 Larson's Heating and Air Conditioning – 845-344-3030 Smalls Plumbing Heating and Air Conditioning – 845-794-7780 Silverman Mechanical Corporation – 845-583-6595

BULK GARBAGE PICK UP – i.e. furniture, mattresses, and construction materials Do not put large items in the dumpsters or next to the dumpsters Thompson Sanitation 845-796-1032

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Board members.

Guests and the Gates

All guests and other visitors (deliveries, etc.) must enter through the Old Liberty Road entrance

- Your guest will scroll to your name on the telephone access pad.
- There are instructions on the screen for the telephone access pad. Your guest will scroll the A-Z listing to your last name. Your guest can "Push Call." The dialer (gate) will dial the phone number that is associated with you
- Upon answering your phone (and speaking to your guest) you will press 9 on that phone and the gate will open.
- FYI The phone number of the gate is (845) 794-0681.

Please be aware that the several of our regular vendors (US Post Office, UPS, FedEx, Time Warner Cable, etc.) will receive either a four digit access code or a remote. Emergency personnel will have a siren sensor for access.

If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Siegel (917-969-9646) or Lenny Kirschenbaum (845-794 3395)



WANTED! 2021 Summer Rentals

There have been several inquiries regarding available rentals for Summer 2021 by people who would like to have a place in Hidden Ridge for next year.

If you are interested in renting your unit for Summer 2021, please contact Bonnie at siegelmath@aol.com so that she can pass your information along to potential renters.



HOLIDAY GREETINGS REMINDER

Collection for the 2020 holiday greetings began in January. There are 1 more opportunity to share your greetings

with your neighbors - Christmas/Chanukah/ Kwanzaa. If you would like to participate, complete the form below and send to the editor with a check for \$3.00 made payable to HRHOA. Thank you to all who have contributed in the past. We look forward to seeing your names listed here in December!

Please complete this form and submit with \$3 to Linda Solomon, GEM Editor-in-Chief 6675 Overland Drive, Delray Beach, FL 33484.

Name(s) (as you want it to appear in the Holiday Greetings)

Your Name

HR Address

UPDATE ON WATER CHARGES AT HIDDEN RIDGE

Crystal Water Supply Company Inc. had made an application to the NYS Dept. of Public Service for an 87% raise in the water rate. If approved by the Public Service Commission, your quarterly water bill would go from \$74.67 per quarter to \$140.61 per quarter. This is in addition to the \$22.58 per quarter surcharge the Public Service Commission allowed Crystal Water for the next 8 billing periods to cover the cost of repairs made in 2019 and a \$17 surcharge for 4 billing periods thereafter to permit Crystal Water to create a reserve fund for future repairs.

As customers of Crystal Water, the owners of units at Hidden Ridge have the right and obligation to oppose this application.

Please send letters opposing Crystal Water's application for a rate increase to the New York State Department of Public Service, 3 Empire State Plaza, 20th Floor, Albany, New York 12223. Your letter should state specific reasons why you oppose the proposed increase.

Letters should be prepared and sent as soon as possible. Please note on your letters that the letter is in regard to Crystal Water Supply Company, Inc., Case 20-W-0432.

Additional information about the proposed rate increase can be found on the NYS Dept. of Public Service web site.

The Board of Directors is in the process of preparing an opposition to this application. That letter will be shared with the community when it is finalized.

If you have any questions, please contact either Bonnie Siegel, 917-969-9646 or Fred Hirsh at 845-796-0090 or 516-639-0238.



SCHOOL TAX REMINDER

All homeowners should have received a bill for the school tax for their property soon. If you have not received this bill, contact Monticello School District at 845-794-1515.

PLEASE! DO NOT FEED THE CATS!











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BOARDING and GROOMING

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Issue 20-05





Hidden Ridge needs you!

The Board of Directors request that you as a resident of Hidden Ridge sign up for one or more of our committees. Please consider offering your expertise and experience to our community.

Please contact the following liaisons for:

- Audit, Budget and Finance Committee Warren Berkowitz
- Beautification JoAnn Epifania •
- By-Laws Committee Fred Hirsh and Brian Kudler •
- Community Activities Warren Berkowitz

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you. Thank you.

"No one can do everything; but, everyone can do something."