

VAIL'S VOICE

Newsletter of the Vail's Grove Community
located on Peach Lake

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January 2021

Greetings from the Chair

To say that this past year has been unusual is an understatement. This community has navigated through many challenges. 2020 started off like most other years. Recreation held the Championship Football Party, they prepared and had the Valentines Tea, and then March came and just about everything that we loved and enjoyed came to a complete halt. It seemed at times, that it would only last a few weeks, the kids would for sure be back in school before to long.... But as we all know that did not happen. However, what did happen, was families in the Grove got to appreciate more and more the things that we took for granted. People were working from home, so they were out and about, walking the dog or taking a walk and deserved break from school or work in general. Because of this, many of us got to know the people of our community by name and face. People that perhaps we didn't see much because of all the crazy schedules we have, became friends. As the weather grew warmer and the school year wound down, we looked forward to being able to spend more time outside with our new and old friends and neighbors. We still were being cautious and abiding by the safety measures though, so there was no Easter Bunny, there was no 4th of July Parade or Hot Dogs. This community was itching to get back to some sense of normal. So with the summer upon us, it was time to open the beach and enjoy the lake. The boats, the jet skis, the laughter of the kids and the adults at the beach made it seem, at least for a time, that we were Vail's Grove Strong. Yes, with the Karaoke canoe and Honda Fit, our angel, Helen Vail helped us to forget, if at least for a short time, every night that we could smile and enjoy each day. Our year was also not without sadness. Some of our neighbors experienced the loss of a loved one during this past year and although all of those losses are sad and hard to deal with, the sudden loss of our Chairman of the Board, Frank Cassidy hit this community like a brick. The end of this year will be bittersweet for many, but when the calendar turns to 2021, there will be hope that the future will be brighter for all members of our community. I am profoundly grateful to have been chosen to be the Chair of the Board. I can promise you all that this Board and our 2 employees work very hard to make sure our community is the best it can be. With the cooperation of all residents of Vail's Grove, we will be stronger then ever in 2021. I wish you all Health and Happiness in the New Year and may all your dreams come true.



OFFICE

Office News

From Cindy

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great holiday season and let's all look forward to a great 2021!!!

Quarterly fees are going up this year by 1%. Please look at your invoice prior to writing out your checks. If your bank sends the check, please inform them of the change--LOOK AT AMOUNT ON THE INVOICE please. If your bank sent it too soon to make the change, please drop a check off in the additional amount. Also, when writing checks, please be sure to sign and date, and be sure that the number amount and the written out amount match. You can safely put your check in the SLOT in the front door for me. You do not need an envelope nor do you need to include the invoice. Payment due in office on last day of January.

For your taxes, you can deduct \$3.05 per share. Please save this in a safe spot.

Millie Martin turned 95 in November! FABULOUS! If you see her, wish her a happy belated.



This year, 2021, I am not publishing a new directory. If you were not in the 2020 directory and you would like your info published, please inform the office of your name, address, phone, e-mail--whatever it is you want published. I need this by end of January, and I will prepare a sheet to send out, and you can add to your present 2020 green directory. In addition, if you want to receive robo-calls, please inform the office of the best phone number. The office e-mail is vailsgrovecoop@gmail.com.

Prior to doing any work outside your house, or any changes to the dimensions of your house, you must put in an application for approval. It is always better to ask me what is necessary. Anytime you are planning to re-finance, you must submit an application for approval. Please remember you cannot rent your house until three years after ownership. Rental applications, as well as sale applications and any other applications, must be in the office 21 days prior to a Board meeting. The Board meetings are usually on the third Thursday of month. This month it will



be on January 28th. Meetings start at 8 p.m. If you are attending, you must have a mask on and sit socially distanced away from anyone. No guest, family member, etc. can live in your home for more than 30 days without being vetted. Please contact the office for info. This is for the safety of all. You were vetted and anyone who lives here must be vetted. Any questions about anything, please reach out.

On December 4, 2020, we held a Blood Drive in honor of Frank Cassidy. This was through the NY Blood Center. I am excited to report that 69 pints of blood was collected. This is an amazing amount--the blood supply should always be a week's worth and presently it is only three days. Thank you to all from Vail's Grove who donated.

James Collins donated for the first time and he was a trooper. Thank you James. The Blood Center is hoping to use our Pavilion for multiple blood drives through the year as it is such a great building to use. Sarah Cassidy, Frank's daughter, spearheaded this Blood Drive as a community service project. If anyone is looking to run a drive, or any students want to do a community service project or just a good deed, please let me know. There will be another Blood Drive in the Pavilion on January 8, 2021 from 12-6 p.m.



Once again, I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

There are people here in the Grove who do kind things all the time on a very quiet level. Starting with 2021 and hopefully following every quarter, there will be a "Person of Kindness". Cathy Morris is the first recipient of this acknowledgement. Cathy set up our Facebook page and is the Administrator. There are always new and beautiful photos on the page that capture the beauty of Vail's Grove. And these photos are taken by Cathy. Recently, Cathy had two exhibits at the same time at the North Salem Library. One exhibit was in the display cases. They are holding postcards from 1900-1950's with photos by Cathy of the same spots now. And, Cathy's photos of "reflections on the lake" were exhibited to show the beauty of the lake through this past year of reflections during the COVID crisis. After we lost Frank Cassidy, Chairman of the Board, Cathy created a beautiful 2021 calendar with these beautiful photos, which we sold here at the Grove. She painstakingly went through her photos to pick the ones that made it into the calendar. All proceeds of this loving calendar went to The Cassidy Children. Cathy has been very involved with our wonderful Lend-a-Hand Committee. The Lend-a-Hand Committee along with Recreation Committee, created a new version of Christmas at Vail's. So many folks come together to make these things happen. Cathy is one of the driving forces and at all times a very humble woman.



Cathy Morris!!!



Sunshine News

From Sue Enos



Becca Palmese and Patrick McParland were married on October 3rd on our beach. It was a beautiful day with perfect weather.



Get well wishes are sent to Tim Curran, Barbara King, Marie Fagan and Moira Tolan for speedy recoveries.



Congratulations to Zach and Christina Kameron on the birth of their new baby Zoe Adriana and to grandparents Dave and Karen Bruen.



And sympathies are sent to Michael and Melissa Sowa on the passing of his mom and to Elizabeth Getter on the passing of both of her parents.



Vail's Grove Lend A Hand Committee



We still have some caps left. If anyone is interested in purchasing caps, contact Helen Vail (Telephone: 845-205-8004, email helenvail@comcast.net). From the sale of the caps, we were able to make donations to thank essential workers at both hospitals in our area (Putnam Hospital Center and Northern Westchester Hospital) as well as the North Salem Police Department and the North Salem Ambulance Corp.



Buildings and Grounds

By Hugh Andrews

Hi Everyone. This Newsletter comes at the beginning of a new year with the hope and promise to a virus free world. We are certainly ready!!



In the meantime, as we enter into the winter season, again I would like to remind everyone to bring your garbage pails back to your homes and not leave them curbside. We must have our roads free and ready for snow plowing. We have also noticed recycle bins out days before pick up; with the winds that often blow during these winter months, recycle items have been blowing around and some in our lake. We would like to definitely avoid this.



It is a Vail's Grove By-law that there is no parking on the streets at any time. This rule is especially relevant during the winter months.



As stated in our last Newsletter, a new Tree Committee was to be established which would take a look at the trees on common and shareholders' properties. This Committee has been formed and has begun to do its evaluating. If you see a tree that you are concerned about, please contact Jason LaRocca.

As mentioned many times before, the speed limit is 10 mph throughout the Grove. Please be mindful as the children will be out sledding and playing, we need to keep our roads safe. If you have workers coming to your home, it is your responsibility to make sure they adhere to our Grove speed limit of 10 mph. We need to work together to keep our roads safe.



Lastly, as the weather gets colder it is reported that more pet waste has been found in common areas and on our roads. Please pick up after your pets and remember your dogs must be walked on a leash. If you want to have your dogs run free, you can do so at the North End field near the tennis courts, however you are still responsible to pick up their waste and responsible for their actions toward other dogs and people.



Vail's Grove Holiday Highlights

A holiday home decorating contest and Santa visit to the Grove - on his "Polar(is) Express" - made for merry memories.

Special thanks to Helen Vail and her many elves for making these events possible.



Winners Vail's Grove 2020 Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Most Creative:

5 Hilltop Lane
Marie and Paul Iarossi

Best use of Lights:

11 Hilltop Lane
Matthew Luccarelli

Best Door Display:

19 Orchard Road
Dan Paesano and Emily Mackenzie

Best Window Display:

2 White Oak Lane
Jill Paxton and Roderick Cumming

Best Overall:

61 Vail's Lake Shore Drive
Maureen McGuire

Thank you to the judges!

Sarah Cassidy, Stella DiDomenico,
Judy Smith, and Everett Taylor



