



The Inside Edge

*A Quarterly Neighborhood Newsletter
for Residents of Water's Edge/Woodlands/Spencer's Landing*

Volume 2: Issue 4 Winter 2024

President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year! As we bid farewell to 2023 and welcome the promise of a fresh start in 2024, we want to extend our warmest wishes to each and every one of you. May this year be filled with joy, prosperity, and good health for all of our residents.

We are thrilled to share some exciting news about the upcoming year as we embark on a journey of positive changes and memorable events within our community. The HOA is committed to enhancing the overall experience for all residents, making our neighborhood an even more wonderful place to call home.

We are excited to continue the tradition of several community events every year. From seasonal celebrations to educational workshops and social gatherings, we have a diverse calendar of events to cater to the interests and preferences of our diverse community. Keep an eye on our community bulletin board and newsletters for detailed information on upcoming events.

In addition to the events, we are working on several initiatives to improve the overall aesthetics and functionality of our community. From landscaping enhancements to community infrastructure improvements (THE PROJECT!), your feedback and suggestions have played a crucial role in shaping these positive changes.

We look forward to seeing familiar faces and welcoming new neighbors throughout the year. Your active participation and involvement are essential to the success of our community initiatives, and we encourage everyone to share their ideas and concerns.

May 2024 bring you joy, success, and good health. We are excited about the positive changes and events that lie ahead and are confident that together, we can make this year truly special for our community.

Thank you for being an integral part of our vibrant community. Here's to a happy and healthy 2024 for all!

Warm regards,

Jason

2024

ACC/HOA Board Meetings

January 10th (Both)
February 14th (ACC)
March 13th (Both)
April 10th (ACC)



*Join us for a
Talent Showcase
Saturday, January 20
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

*Enjoy the Pre-Super Bowl
Chili Cook-Off
Saturday, February 3
Noon - 3:00 p.m.*

*Experience the
Perfect Pi-Day
(with your favorite pies!)
Thursday, March 14
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

*Participate in Aqua Zumba
Mondays,
February 26 - March 25
5:30 p.m. - 6:20 p.m.*

Bob's Lane

Editor's Note: As part of our quarterly newsletter, General Manager Bob Lane shares some thoughts on current news and events in the community from his unique perspective.



Anticipation is beginning to build for the upcoming expansion of the clubhouse. Final drawings are being prepared, and the configuration of the new equipment in what will be a larger gym space is being considered. While we had

hoped for the slab to be poured before winter, the revised expectation is for that to be in place by early spring, with construction following close behind. Once we are in receipt of the final drawings, we will be displaying them on the breezeway wall where the entrance to the new gym will be located. Additionally, electronic versions of the plans will be distributed. As the project approaches, updates to the timeline will also be shared. Once underway, detailed progress reports will be sent regularly (in addition to Newsletter updates and reports at regular Board meetings). Stay tuned for more information to come!

As the year ends and a new year begins, I wanted to take a minute to thank the many Board members and committee volunteers I have worked with over these past sixteen plus years. To all of you: Your commitment to this wonderful community continues to make this the best place to live in the Saratoga area. The hours devoted to improvements and day-to-day functions are often thankless but incredibly important. I wanted to take a minute to thank one particular volunteer, whom we lost recently. Roger Calkins passed away in December. He was one of the first Board members at Water's Edge. He worked on the Board through the very early days when the

sponsor (builder) was still building and planning aspects of the community. After a hiatus from the Board, he returned in 2007 and was a member when I was hired. Roger was an extremely committed Board member, who enjoyed the neighborhood very much. After his tenure, he was responsible for spearheading the effort to install the flagpole prominently on display every time we pass through the gate. Like so many volunteers before and after Roger, he has left an incredible mark on this wonderful community.

While winter grips the region and--at least in my view--holds on for far too long, we have much to look forward to. I am extremely excited for the many changes ahead and to seeing the return of many of you who winter in warmer places, when we will have a new gym and expanded community room to enjoy. Happy New Year to you all!



Sunrise at Water's Edge

Your Community At Play



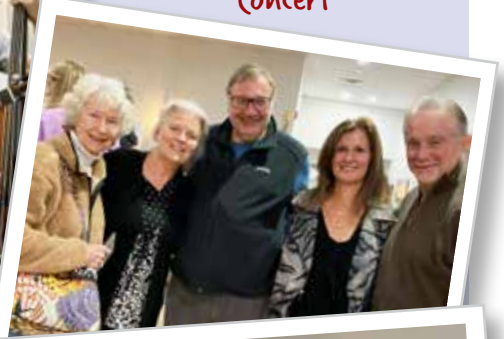
An Evening of Song
with the
Cliff Dwellers



Children's
Holiday Party



Jackson Emmer
Concert



Community
Sing-Along



The Way We Were: Our Kaydeross Amusement Park Carousel

This is the eighth in an ongoing series of articles featuring the fascinating history of our Water's Edge community. In this segment, we will again go back to the time when our property was the location of Kaydeross Amusement Park. A major feature of the park was the magnificent carousel that now resides in Congress Park in downtown Saratoga Springs. But how did the carousel end up in Congress Park, and what is the history of this rare, hand-carved carousel, built in 1910? Hop on, and we will take a ride into the past!

According to the National Carousel Association, of the almost 4,000 wooden carousels carved in America between 1885 and 1930, fewer than 175 vintage carousels still operate today. The Congress Park carousel is the only known two-row (across) carousel carved by Marcus Charles Illions that is still intact today. Illions was a master wood carver who came to the U.S. from Russia in 1888, and he was considered, according to the NY Times, to be “the Michelangelo of carousel carvers.” The carousel has 28 horses – each one unique - sporting beautiful hand-carved heads that Illions himself carved, well-decorated bodies, and real horse-hair tails.



The Illions Carousel in Kaydeross Amusement Park (pre-1987)

Illions began his career in Coney Island, carving horses for carousel-maker William Mangels. In 1909, he formed the MC Illions and Sons Carousel Works, and the rest, as they say, is history. In the first half of the 20th century, there were several parks in the Clifton Park area that had carousels. Luna Park, in Rexford, which first opened in 1906, had several different carousels over the course of its 27-year history. One of the first to be used at Luna Park was made in 1910 by Illions, and this was the carousel that would later find a home in Saratoga's Kaydeross Amusement Park. In 1912, it was replaced by the Luna Park owners and sold to Forest Park, at the southern end of Ballston Lake. Then, in 1930, it was sold again and moved to a site in Round Lake. Finally, in 1940, it was sold to the Kaydeross Amusement Park on Saratoga Lake, where it resided (in the spot where our current flagpole stands) until 1987, when the auctioneers began to sell off the amusement park to make way for the brand-new Water's Edge development (then called “Vista”) where we live today.

The plan was to break up the Kaydeross Amusement Park carousel and sell it horse by horse. However, the people of Saratoga Springs formed a “Save the Carou-

sel Committee” and, in 1987, under the leadership of former Department of Public Works Commissioner, Tom McTygue, and former Finance Commissioner, Ted Butler, the community made a desperate effort to raise enough money to support the City's purchase of the carousel, intact. Just before the horses were to be individually auctioned, the auctioneer stopped the sale and announced that the City of Saratoga Springs had raised \$150,000 for the purchase of the carousel, thus saving this treasure for current and future generations of Saratogians. Further fundraising enabled the horses to be fully restored.

Following much lively debate (between 1987 and 2002) about where to locate the carousel, it was finally moved to its current location in Congress Park, where it opened on June 29, 2002. It is housed in a beautiful new pavilion, built with labor and materials donated by area businessmen and funded, in part, by a state grant.

Today, the former Kaydeross Park carousel continues to play its traditional calliope and organ tunes in Congress Park, and it is now one of only six remaining Illions in existence (and, as previously mentioned, the only known two-across model), with a new computer-controlled system having replaced the original belt-driven



The Illions Carousel Today, in Congress Park

mechanism. So, if you want to touch a piece of Water's Edge history, next spring, when the carousel reopens for the May through October season, go to Congress Park with your family and take a ride on the beautiful vintage carousel that once was ours. The carousel can also be booked for parties, weddings, and other private functions by calling Leigha O'Connor at 518-414-0610. How lucky we are that the people of Saratoga Springs had the foresight to save this treasure for generations to come!

~ Submitted by Laurie Wellman

HOA Bulletin Board: Important Messages from Management and Your Neighbors

A Request to Report Dumpster Violations

There are still people leaving items other than household refuse in and around the dumpsters. Management has found appliances, construction debris, and other large items that are not permitted. If you observe anyone violating the dumpster regulations, please notify the HOA office immediately by calling 518-583-1222, and provide the date and time when you observed the infraction being committed. This will enable Bob Lane to quickly review the video records and identify the person(s) involved. Thank you for your cooperation.

Note: For other than normal household refuse, please go directly to the Saratoga Springs Transfer Station at 41 Weibel Ave., open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-3:45 p.m. (518-581-1430).

Evidence of Homeowners Insurance Policies Must Be Submitted

Each year, without exception, homeowners are required to submit an updated copy of the cover sheet of their homeowner's insurance policy to the HOA main office when their policies are renewed. If you have not already done so for the 2023 year, please send yours in immediately. Thank you.

Keeping Children and Pets Safe

With winter snow approaching, and to protect our children and pets, please consider using sidewalk snow-melt treatments that are safe for both humans and animals. Magnesium chloride, in particular, and calcium chloride are environmentally and pet-friendly options that are remarkably effective. Look for these and other options on your hardware store shelves.

Clubhouse Renovation: What's New?

While we expect our April issue to provide a lot more detail on the pending Clubhouse expansion, the Design Committee continues to work on enhancements to the community room. Once the new gym has been built and equipped, the wall between the current gym and community room will be demolished, resulting in an expanded space for all of us to enjoy.

With new ceiling tiles selected, and two attractive game tables just purchased, our next step is buying furniture to surround the outdoor pool. We're also engaged in selecting new counters, fixtures, and tiles for the men's and ladies' lounges, with the introduction of a new color scheme that reflects our lakeside ambiance.



Next on our list of things to buy: a coffee table and four or five comfy chairs to create a conversation area, as well as a circular rug to go underneath. While the two tables we've purchased are just the size for four-handed games and mah-jongg, a poker table for larger card-playing groups is also on our list

It may seem far off, but the fact is, come fall, it should all be coming together. And that's certainly something for all to look forward to in 2024!

~ Submitted by Ilene Angarola,
a member of the Interior Design Committee

A Day in the Life of a Children's Book Author: Introducing Francine Dingeman

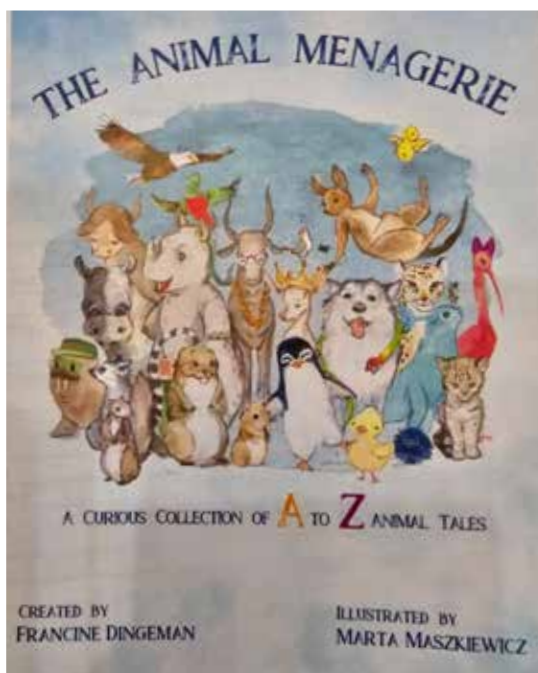
In each issue of *The Inside Edge*, we have the pleasure of introducing a member of our community who is doing extraordinary work. First-time author of a most unusual children's book, Francine Dingeman, is the "star" of this issue. We will introduce our readers first to Fran's just-released book, *The Animal Menagerie*; then we will meet the author; and, finally, Fran will share some valuable information on what it takes to self-publish a book.

About the book: *The Animal Menagerie* was written by Francine Dingeman and beautifully illustrated by Marta Maszkiewicz. (Marta is an illustrator who lives in Poland, selected by Fran from 40 candidates, who worked with the author long-distance via email). *The Animal Menagerie* is an A-Z alphabet book for children ages 4-7. But this is definitely not your typical alphabet book, where "A" is for apple, "B" is for box, and "C" is for carrot. In this book, the characters are all animals, one for each letter of the alphabet. In addition, many new, and sometimes quite advanced, words are introduced to the child's vocabulary through entertaining rhymes. Here is an excerpt, for the letter "W":

The Flawless Walrus Every year on Tusk Measuring Day, the walrus come together to measure how long their tusks have grown since the year before. Wally is the walrus always chosen to measure the other walrus' tusks because everyone knows how careful a walrus he is. "Doing things the right way is very important to me," says Wally. As a result, Wally performs his work very well and makes no mistakes. "There's only one walrus we want to measure our tusks each year," says the leader of the walrus herd, "and it's Wally, because Wally is a Flawless Walrus!"

Two more entertaining animal characters in the book are, for example, "The Chuckling Duckling," who loves to giggle, and, "The Dichotomous Hippopotamus," who lives half on land and half in the water. A "Schemer Lemur," a "Polite Termite," and a "Sly Fly" are among the many others. These are obviously not your typical children's book words, and the adorable illustrations further help to explain their meaning.

About the Author: Francine Dingeman is a first-time author who passionately enjoys the art of rhyme and has a deep appreciation for the creative use of words. Originally a "Jersey Girl" from Secaucus, NJ, Fran has lived on Vista Drive in Water's Edge for 30 years. She enjoyed raising her three children in our community, and now delights in sharing her beautiful surroundings with her five grandchildren, all of whom reside in the area. The completion of this book is the fulfillment of a lifelong dream for Fran and reaffirms her belief that, "the possibilities in life are endless!"



The Animal Menagerie Book Cover

Never one to sit still, way back when Fran was a full-time Mom, she started "Welcome Wagon" in the area, marketed the "Penny Saver" newspaper, and worked part-time for an ad agency. She also acted as the events manager in the early years at Water's Edge, coordinating with her committee such events as St. Patrick's Day, Travers Day, Super Bowl, Easter Brunch, and other neighborhood parties in our clubhouse. One year, she even turned the racquetball court into a haunted house for Halloween.

As her children grew, and, "always looking for new twists," as Fran says, she branched out in many directions, including staging the first Saratoga County Restaurant Week, the Longfellow's Wedding Show, the Saratoga International "Flavorfeast" (providing samples of ethnic foods and music in Saratoga), and many other community events. Fran is currently the owner of the event development/marketing company, "Network Saratoga" at <https://www.networksaratoga.com/>, and General Manager of Loud Media (Star Radio 93.3FM and Lake George Radio 93.5FM). Visit www.francinedingeman.com for more information on *The Animal Menagerie*, and you can also follow the book on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheAnimalMenagerie>.

(continued)

A Day in the Life . . . (continued)

If you are thinking of writing and publishing a book:

So how did this very busy lady become an author of a children's book? Fran says that it all began when she took out her notes from 18 years ago. She had always loved writing and playing with words, including writing poems, and had dreamed of writing a book one day. Furthermore, her mother had always told her to go after her dreams, saying the worst you can hear is "no," and so she did just that.

The process of writing and self-publishing (i.e., not using a publishing company) The Animal Menagerie was not easy, especially since Fran initially knew nothing about it. However, she knew that this was what she needed to do in order to maintain absolute control over every aspect of the process, and to make sure that the end product was exactly what she had envisioned. Fran advises would-be authors and self-publishers to ask as many questions of as many people as possible, and to be prepared for some very hard work. She worked on the book an average of two to three hours every day, for over two years. Fran's first step was discovering animals that would lend themselves to rhymes; she then wrote the stories, and then collaborated on the illustrations. But that was only the beginning.

If you are thinking of writing and self-publishing a book, here are some of the many decisions you will have to make, according to Fran: the dimensions of the book, the paper weight and quality, the font, using offset vs. digital printing, hard vs. soft cover, the number of copies to print, the price to charge for the book, which printing company to use, what type of binding (sewn, glued, or stapled), how to obtain a copyright, how to collect sales tax, and even what the inside of the covers should look like (decorated or plain), and more. So much to think about!

Our interview ended with my newfound appreciation for all that writing, producing, and marketing a book entails. In conclusion, Fran says, "Never close the door on your dreams. Follow your heart and make conscious decisions. You will be surprised by the beautiful endings they will bring." We are proud to have Fran Dingeman as our neighbor here at Water's Edge, and we wish her much success with her book.

~ Submitted by Laurie Wellman

East Side EMS/Fire Station Scheduled to Open

The long-awaited East Side EMS/Fire Station on Henning Road is expected to open around the beginning of February. There have been slight delays due to final construction issues that are being resolved. The fire station, the City's third, will be staffed with a full-time fire engine. The City will then have three engines and two ambulances in service full time.

Since the class of newly hired firefighters will not be available until completion of paramedic training in June, in order to open the station as soon as possible and avoid significant overtime costs, the City and fire fighter's union have agreed that each engine will be staffed by three fire fighters from February until June.

Beginning in June, after the graduation of the new class of recruits, all three fire engines will be staffed with four-person crews full-time.



All firefighters are trained paramedics, and each engine (including that at Station 3) carries full medical equipment. The new station is a welcome addition. Its location is expected to improve response time to fire and EMS calls throughout the East Side, particularly the neighborhoods like Waters Edge in the Eastern Plateau.

~ Submitted by Dennis McGhan and Connie Sullivan

Your Community at Work: The Marina Committee

Residents who attended the November Board of Directors meeting were impressed by the long list of goals achieved by the new Marina Committee in the short time since its inception - as well as by the committee's plans for the year ahead. To learn more, we recently interviewed Committee Chair Bob DeFilippi.

Q. The Marina Committee is the newest of the committees formed to enhance the quality of life we enjoy here at WatersEdge/Woodlands/Spencer's Landing. When was the committee formed and what motivated its formation?

A. There had been requests from homeowners to address perceived deficiencies and safety concerns regarding the marina. This prompted the HOA Board of Directors to seek volunteers to form this committee. We had our first official meeting on July 29, 2023. I suggested our first act should be to elect a chairperson and, because no good deed goes unpunished, I was elected.

Q. What is the specific purpose/function of the Marina Committee?

A. Essentially, it is to assess the operation and condition of the docks and develop recommendations for improvements.

Q. Who serves on the Committee?

A. The committee currently consists of ten homeowners who either rent or "own" a dock. Among our active members are a member of the Safety Committee, two Board members, and two members of the Finance Committee.

Q. How many meetings have you held to date?

A. Since its inception in July, we have held 10 meetings. We have been meeting about every two weeks, with our last meeting having taken place on December 11th, and we will resume in March after a short winter break.

Q. What specific issues requiring attention have you identified at your meetings?

A. During our first meeting, we began the process of prioritizing topics for discussion. Safety and security were our top priority, followed by dock maintenance and the need to plan for eventual dock replacement. Since then, we have addressed other issues such as lighting, possible expansion, the usefulness of the boat launch, and recommendations for docking and mooring.

In addition, the committee discussed the issue of ownership. The docks are not deeded to owners but are leased from the HOA under a 100-year lease agreement. We verified that arrangement according to our By-Laws and a review by the HOA Attorney. The slip lessees are financially responsible for the operation and upkeep of the marina.

(continues)



Since the dock expenses are the responsibility of the lessees, we have focused on the need for better maintenance practices to extend the life of the docks. It is important to the committee to help dock owners keep costs down and maintain this valuable amenity for the community.

Q. What specific actions have been taken to date to address those issues?

A. Several actions have been taken to date:

- We have recommended the reinforcement of the outer sections of each dock stem to resist the stress of wind and waves. Dock A has been completed and the remaining three docks will be reinforced this spring. (Note: The “stem” is the common portion of the dock that connects all the “fingers”.)
- Existing cedar deck boards will be replaced with new pressure-treated boards, which will also be coated with a sealer to further increase their life span. All main stem boards will be replaced this spring, and the fingers over the next two years.
- We are investigating the installation of cameras to monitor the dock area.
- Solar lights have been installed on the stem of Dock A and will be added to the other stems in the spring.
- Pending the installation of cameras, signage will be installed at the end of each stem indicating that the area is under video surveillance.
- A lost and found container has been placed on the docks and a supply of dock line will be made available at the beginning of next season.

Q. Does the Marina Committee focus on both the boat slips and the kayak racks or just the boat slips?

A. The Marina Committee focuses on the boat slips since maintenance and improvements to that area relate to boat owners only. The financial responsibility for any upgrades or additions to the kayak area belongs to the entire community. Nonetheless, we will recommend to the Board that the HOA extend video surveillance to include that area and add signage as noted above.

Q. Is there anything else our HOA residents should know about the Marina Committee and its efforts?

A. We are open to any and all suggestions, comments, etc. from any community member. Additional discussion and recommendations will be reported at the bi-monthly Board meetings.

I would also like to thank all the members for their time and efforts.

~ Submitted by Bob DeFilippi,
Marina Committee Chair



Your Community at Play: Crazy for Kayaking?

While the winter season may not be the perfect time for kayaking, it just might be the perfect time to PLAN for kayaking once spring springs! Are you planning to go?

Oh, you don't have anyone to go with? Or maybe you need help getting your kayak from the rack to the water? Do you wish there were organized group paddles you could join? Well, perhaps now is the time to think about the best way to get you into that kayak you've been storing.

We're looking for opinions and gauging interest in organized group paddles for next season, leaving from our launch. For example, we could have brunch paddles to 550 Waterfront and back, an adventure up the Kaydeross to Lake Lonely for some bird watching, or head over to Sandy Beach for happy hour and volleyball. Sound like fun?

Let us know:

1. Would you be interested in group paddles at Water's Edge?

2. If so, how would you suggest we get the word out about upcoming paddle trips so people could sign up? Email? Water's Edge website? Private Facebook group? Signup Genius? Some means of allowing any member to suggest, and invite others to, a paddle event.

3. Do you have any other suggestions or comments regarding kayaking/canoeing at Water's Edge?

Please send a quick email to Ann Marie Lange in the HOA office at hoa@watersedge-woodlands.org to let us know your thoughts. Hope to see you on the water!

~ Submitted by [Stacey VanMarkwyk](#)



WORD SEARCH CHALLENGE:

Find 10 Sports Played at Water's Edge

The words listed in the Word Bank below can all be found in this puzzle, crafted by our neighbor Alice Dean. Words may appear vertically, horizontally, and diagonally, as well as backwards! Puzzled? You'll find the solution on page 13.

E	E	R	X	J	Q	S	E	P	O	H	Q	Z	N	S
B	I	B	O	A	T	I	N	G	X	I	T	X	V	G
H	L	N	J	P	G	N	I	M	M	I	W	S	E	W
I	L	S	N	I	J	P	K	X	D	J	G	G	J	E
P	A	I	G	V	Q	C	A	Z	U	S	Z	W	N	I
G	B	X	A	B	I	W	Y	M	B	G	U	X	A	G
P	T	N	M	V	Y	L	A	R	L	E	Q	R	O	H
N	E	F	U	T	B	R	K	E	Z	Z	C	C	Q	T
X	U	P	Q	I	D	E	I	D	R	G	T	C	N	S
U	Q	S	O	N	C	A	N	O	E	I	N	G	O	R
T	C	P	F	D	R	Z	G	H	A	D	Y	H	W	B
F	A	U	F	G	F	P	H	T	E	N	N	I	S	A
G	R	M	L	L	A	B	E	L	K	C	I	P	T	L
X	R	G	L	L	A	B	T	E	K	S	A	B	V	Z
A	B	N	X	G	A	W	G	D	U	N	K	Y	R	N

Word Bank

(1) weights; (2) kayaking; (3) tennis; (4) swimming; (5) boating; (6) racquetball; (7) basketball; (8) bocce; (9) pickleball; (10) canoeing

It's a Dog's World!

Getting out of the house with your four-legged friend? With this article, you'll never think of walking your dog the same way again! Walking your dog is about so much more than just "potty breaks." It provides exercise, socialization, mental awareness, and possibilities for bonding, for both you and your pet!

As many of us know, our pets provide an opportunity for engaging with a neighbor or serving as a casual starting point for conversation. Walking your dog can also be a source of shared knowledge, even among dog-walkers who may not have similar interests.

The Water's Edge community thrives on the interactions and experiences of the dog walkers in our neighborhood. For example, Rich Hand, a member of our Board of Directors, states, "Water's Edge is a great neighborhood to walk dogs. There are many dog owners in our community, and many of us know the names of our neighbors' dogs better than we know our neighbors' names. (I'm only half-kidding).



"If it weren't for walking 'the girls' (Pax and Lily, pictured above), I would have less opportunity to talk to people in the neighborhood. It is also my chance to enjoy the lake, capture the eagles that are often perched on the tree limbs by the kayak launch, and feel grateful for the beautiful surroundings we share.

"I would also like to give a shout-out to one of the contractors in our neighborhood who always has treats for the dogs that cross his path. If his truck is in a driveway, my big girl Pax will sit herself down and refuse to move until he comes out of his truck and breaks out the treats! He is like the ice cream man for the dogs in the neighborhood. If I have plans, and I see his truck nearby, I must reroute if I have any chance of being on time."



Betty Grefer-Welch agrees. "Everyone was wonderful when our Oliver passed so suddenly. Oliver was well-known as a friend to our dog-walkers in the neighborhood and enjoyed his leisurely meet-and-greets immensely. So many of our neighbors had such kind words of solace as we worked our way through the profound grief we felt with his loss. When we adopted Pierre (pictured above), he was greeted with the same thoughtful, caring words of welcome. Everyone was thrilled that we found a new pet to love. We feel so blessed to be living here among such wonderful neighbors and friends, and walking our Pierre has deepened our relationships with so many of our neighbors that we might not have known. Oliver and Pierre have truly expanded our relationships in the community."

Interestingly enough, during the COVID-19 pandemic, dog owners were more likely than those without dogs to go for regular walks outdoors, providing an opportunity for neighborly connections during a period of extreme social isolation. To our dog-walking friends and their friendly companions, this paw's for you!

~ Submitted by [Connie Sullivan](#), [Rich Hand](#), and [Betty Grefer-Welch](#)

And Another Thing . . .



Talent Showcase

Our first event for 2024 will be a talent showcase! Community residents are invited to join us in fun and song, whether as performers or listeners, on January 20, from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

We have showcased artists in the past and have sponsored open mic nights, but this year, we want to expand the scope so that more community residents can participate. Mike Perkins and Rich Hand will be participating with a variety of songs on guitar, as well as Bob Lane on keyboard. So, how about you?

1. Are you a singer? Pick a song or two in advance and we will see if Mike, Rich, or Bob can back you up musically.
2. If you play any instruments and would like to perform in any way, let us know.
3. Know any good jokes? Share them with us.
4. Are you a poet or a writer? Share your talents with us.
5. Have any good magic tricks? Let us see what you've got!
6. Any other skills? Juggling? Hand stands? Or any other talent you would like to share with the community.

Either way, the skills of Water's Edge residents and staff will be on full display. Bring your own bottle. A table for sharing your favorite snacks or appetizers will be set up in the kitchen for all to share. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Let Mike Perkins know at michael.perkins.toga@gmail.com if you would like to perform so we can save a spot for you!



Short-Term Rental Survey

In December, our Safety and Security Committee developed a survey regarding short-term rentals which was sent to all homeowners. That survey, due back by January 10th, will be analyzed early in 2024 and the results shared with the community. There has been some interest in having our community meet with representatives regarding the City's position on short-term rentals so that we may all be informed. (Similarly, it was very helpful to have a meeting between our community members and the Saratoga Springs Fire Department last summer regarding the progress on the new fire station.) We look forward to the results of the short-term rental survey and will have more details in the Spring newsletter.

Chili Cook-off

Dust off those crock-pots and fire up your enthusiasm for our pre-Super Bowl Chili Cook-off, scheduled for Saturday, February 3 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is the weekend before the Super Bowl. Doors will be open at



12:30 p.m. for those bringing chili. From a barn-burning chili to a sweet dessert chili, this is your time to share your culinary skills and compete for prizes with your special recipe. Please bring a copy of your recipe with you so that we can post it on our website! Everyone will have an opportunity to engage in a delightful selection of "personal bests" and vote on their favorites. Details on the event and activities will be available in mid-January.

To begin to prepare for this spectacular culinary contest, let Kathy Evans know at kathyevans530@gmail.com if you will be participating and bringing your favorite chili delight. Also, be sure to wear your best football gear from your favorite team, and plan to vote on your anticipated score for the big game! Who will be the winner?



Aqua-Zumba

You asked for it, and you have it! Aqua Zumba will return to Water's Edge for five weeks, beginning Monday, February 26th, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. Join the party and splash to energetic music with community members in our indoor pool. Taught by a licensed instructor, the one-hour group classes will be invigorating and fun. The flyer inviting your participation will be sent to all residents in mid to late January. Participation will be limited to 15 community members, based on the size of the pool. The fee will be \$40, or \$8 a session. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pi-Day, March 14



March 14th is National Pi Day. Pi is a mathematical term, with the first digits being 3.14. So, Pi Day is 3.14, aka March 14th. Get it? If you're looking for an excuse to bake and enjoy your favorite pies, celebrate

Pi Day with us by preparing your best quiche, pot pie, or luscious dessert pie, and bringing it with you to the clubhouse on Thursday, March 14th. The festivities start at 6:30 p.m. and continue till 8:00 p.m. Think about your favorite recipes that you can't wait to share. Details and guidelines for participation will be emailed to all residents in mid-February. Mark it on your calendar for a "pie in the sky" event!

Solution to the Word Search that appears on Page 10

E E R X J Q S E P O H Q Z N S
B I **B O A T I N G** X I T X V G
H **L** N J P **G N I M M I W S E W**
I **L** S N I J P **K** X D J G G J **E**
P **A** I G V Q C **A** Z U S Z W N **I**
G **B** X A B I W **Y** M B G U X A **G**
P **T** N M V Y L **A** R L **E** Q R O **H**
N **E** F U T B R **K** E Z Z **C** C Q **T**
X **U** P Q I D E **I** D R G T **C** N **S**
U **Q** S O N **C A N O E I N G O R**
T **C** P F D R Z **G** H A D Y H W **B**
F **A** U F G F P H **T E N N I S A**
G **R M L L A B E L K C I P T L**
X R G **L L A B T E K S A B V Z**
A B N X G A W G D U N K Y R N

The Inside Edge

A Quarterly Neighborhood Newsletter for Residents of Water's Edge/Woodlands/Spencer's Landing

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*Comments and suggestions may be sent to the HOA office at
hoawatersedge@nycap.rr.com*

*Please put Newsletter in the subject area so that correspondence may be forwarded to
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