

# STONEBRIDGE NEWS

**Contacting the Board** Requests must be made in writing to 54A Muirfield Ct. or [Stonebridgehomeowner98@gmail.com](mailto:Stonebridgehomeowner98@gmail.com).

The Board meets monthly to review issues/requests. The minutes in the newsletter show the date of the next meeting. After the meeting, you will be notified. Please, **only** call the Board if you have an **emergency**

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We welcome our new neighbors, Dennis and Susan Devereux to 102 Turnberry. We wish them many joyous years in their new home!

**Congratulations** to Ben Porath, Class of 2023, upon his graduation from Lourdes HS. We wish Ben the best on his new venture!



## **Helpers Needed**

We are asking for volunteers to help with the cleaning up and cutting vines in areas beyond our common areas, not addressed by LCS. Areas behind some of the townhouses have woods encroaching and need some trimming. A few years ago volunteers removed vines and undergrowth on the east side of the Turnberry-Muirfield pond. It improved the appearance around the pond and saved some trees from dying by removing the strangulating vines. If anyone would like to help in trimming back overgrowth behind our units, please contact Edie Stout.



## **Harmful or Helpful?**

As Pestech liaison, Edie Stout received a call from a resident concerned with a massive “bees’ nest” in a tree near her townhouse. Edie consulted a colleague (also a beekeeper), who found it to be a swarm of honeybees. The bees were not aggressive or harmful.

These bees typically congregate for a day or two with a plan to separate into a few hives. He described it as the largest swarm he had ever seen, estimating it to be 80,000 bees! He said the bees would leave in a black ball, but quickly form a single line to their new homes. Hence the word, “beeline”. They did just as he described.



## **Stonebridge Book Club**

**Book:** The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict

**When:** Thursday, June 15th 3 PM

**Where:** 97 Turnberry Court

**RSVP:** Beth Mostransky, 845-232-5261

**Reading Ahead:** The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man by Paul Newman

We are limiting the group to 12 people. For our meetings, we ask that you call to reserve after first receiving your Newsletter. To keep it fair, no reservations will be accepted beforehand.

## It Takes a Village!

**Thank You!** Thank you to the Architectural Committee for overseeing improvements/alterations to units and making sure they stay within the guidelines of our bylaws: John Gallaway, Donna Thomas, Ginny VanVlack and John Weisman.

**Thank You!** We would like to thank Dylan Thomas and Catherine Geiger, both seniors at Arlington High School, for their Community Service at Stonebridge. They assisted with a variety of tasks including cleaning and setting up the pool furniture. Dylan is the grandson of Ken & Donna Thomas.

Thank you to John Ripo and David Simpson for putting up the awnings at our pool. Realizing rain was imminent, they stepped in to get them up before the scheduled day.

**Thank You!**

**Thank You!** Kudos to Ginny Van Vlack for her donation of pool umbrellas. The red umbrellas were looking shabby, and she found umbrellas to almost match our blue awnings.

Mary Jane Mastroberardino received an American Flag from the Veterans Association after her husband Joseph, who was a WWII veteran, passed away in August 2022. She generously donated it to Stonebridge to replace our entranceway flag. The flag was raised at 12:00 PM Monday 5/29/2023 with friends and family looking on.

**Thank You!**

**Thank You!** The HOA Board received a thank you note from William Austin's family for the donation to the Dutchess County Family Services Inc. in his memory. They also received a note from the Dutchess County Family Services for the donation in memory of William Austin. Chuck Pellegrino and Donna Newlan sent the HOA board a note of thanks for the repair of their sidewalk. They were very pleased with the work which was done.



### Front Gardens

This is a reminder that front gardens are the responsibility of the homeowner. A few questions have been posed regarding ownership of the areas. These are NOT considered common areas and hence not maintained by LCS. If a tree needs attention or replacement in the front garden area, it is the responsibility of the homeowner.

### Masonry

Our mason, Mark, has been reliable and affordable for some of the major jobs we've had these past several years. Recent summers, we had a mason who would work for us on jobs not requiring heavy equipment. We were very pleased with his work. However, he has told us that he is unable to do our supplemental work because of his full-time job and time constraints. He gave us names of two other masons. We have yet to get the service of either of the recommended two, despite their initial agreement to assist. Please be patient while we seek a new mason for the smaller jobs.



### Condolences

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of John Mongero. Joyce and John moved to Stonebridge in 2014. John died in a Memory Care Facility on April 30, 2023 of advanced Alzheimer's disease.

John was immersed in sports activities throughout his life. He was on every sports team in high school. After high school he played minor league baseball for a short time, and then was offered a full basketball scholarship to Roanoke College in Virginia. There he greatly excelled in the sport, and won many basketball awards throughout the southern US college leagues. After college he was recruited to play for a minor league team in the forerunner of the NBA. John then decided his life should be in teaching physical education, which he did and loved, for 36 years in the Yorktown Central School District. He instituted many new activities, and fought and won a battle for full

inclusion of handicapped children in his classes. For most of those years he also ran all of the softball and basketball leagues for the Yorktown recreation department year round.

Joyce and John spent many years skiing, biking, hiking, boating, kayaking, playing tennis and pickleball, and traveling the world. John enjoyed the years he spent here at Stonebridge, and was well liked by all for his kind, friendly, and jovial nature. He is surely missed.

Joyce is appreciative of those in our community who provided her support during a difficult time. Stonebridge will be donating a memorial gift in John's name to The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse in Poughkeepsie.

## **Minutes of Stonebridge Homeowners Board Meeting**



The HOA Board meeting convened at 3:00 PM on 5/8/2023 at 70 Muirfield Ct. The following members of the Board were present: Donna Augustine, President; Martin Charwat, Vice-President; Steve Bartlett, Treasurer; Janet Ellsworth, Corresponding Secretary; Edie Stout, Recording Secretary; John Weisman, member-at- Large and Brenda Berry (via Zoom), member-at-Large. Donna Augustine proposed and Steve Bartlett seconded the minutes of the April meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Steve Bartlett presented the financial report for the month of April. Income for the month was \$47,880.68. Regular recurring expenditures for the month of April was \$2,300.95 to Royal Carting for Refuse; \$343.00 to Central Hudson for Electricity and Gas; \$8.20 to Verizon for Telephone; \$15,287.44 to LCS Landscapes NY for Landscaping and Snow Removal. Other expenses were \$228.00 to RBT CPAs LLP for payment of NYS Income and MTA taxes; \$276.00 McCabe & Mack LLP for Legal Services; \$140.43 to H. A. Schreck for semi-annual motor generator services to the Lift Station; \$440.00 to O & M Solutions LLC for Quarterly pump control station service to the Lift Station; \$50.00 to Dutchess County Family Services Inc. in memory of William Austin; \$1,732.00 to Shawn Painter for removal of tree adjacent to Bocce Ct. and the trimming of five pine trees; \$1,800.00 to Mark Christopher for Repairs and Replacement of the walkway at #66; and \$235.00 to Dutchess County Department of Health for this year's pool Permit. As of April 30, 2023 the balance of the Checking Account was \$139,031.23. The total in the Reserve Account was \$184,689.41. The total for Checking and Savings, \$323,720.64.

### **Corresponding Secretary Report**

The board reviewed the status of the current Action Items presented by Janet Ellsworth. The results of the walk-around action items, which included the decks and front gardens, were discussed. The homeowners who needed to better maintain their front gardens and decks were notified by email. All residents have the responsibility to maintain their front gardens and keep their decks stained and safe.

- Some of the trees that are on common property are looking a little stressed and Shawn Painter will evaluate them.
- Work is continuing on some sidewalks that are cracked or broken.
- Power wash will be done only to the areas of the townhouses needing it. Mostly the north sides of some townhouses are to be power washed this summer.

The next HOA board meeting will be June 8, 2023 at 3:00 PM at #1 Turnberry Ct. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM by Donna Augustine and seconded by Steve Bartlett. At 4:26 PM the HOA board went into executive session. The executive session closed at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edie Stout, Recording Secretary

*If you prefer to receive your newsletter via e-mail contact: [lshekita@gmail.com](mailto:lshekita@gmail.com)*