



# UP TO THE HILT

The Official Newsletter of Highlights in Leisure Time

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, June 12, 10 am  
Picnic - Community Center  
Patio Catered Lunch &  
Musical Entertainment  
(Anne Zusy Youth Lounge if  
indoors)

### TRIP

WEDNESDAY, June 18  
Grounds for Sculpture  
(Self-Guided)  
Lunch at Rat's Restaurant  
Hamilton Twp., NJ

### UPCOMING TRIP:

TUESDAY, July 15  
Surflight Theater – Musical  
"42<sup>nd</sup> Street"  
Lunch at Buckalews  
Beach Haven, NJ



## MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**May:** Grace Albergate, Jeri Cohn, Elisabete Da Silva, Gregory Farrell, Susan Fletcher, Rosemary Flynn, Barbara Kisver, Shirley Kuan, Carol Lister, Jane Lum, Marie Morris, Donna Pinke, Deanna Schablik, Lurli Smith, Anna Spalckhaver, Richard Spalckhaver



## MYSTERY MEMBER

**Born in Hackensack Hospital and raised in Hillsdale. Graduated from Pascack Valley High School. Has one brother and nieces and nephews. Attended Bergen Community College. Upon graduation she worked as a medical transcriptionist. She worked in Bergen Pines, Bergen Regional and Bergen New Bridge. Likes to read biographies and non-fiction books. Favorite music is from the 50's and 60's, although, is not into dancing. Favorite sport is golf. Enjoys taking trips. Has always been involved in church and for more than 20 years was a Sunday school teacher.**

## LAST MONTH'S MYSTERY MEMBER

### Gloria Holmes

**Born in Newark, NJ. Majored in Fine Arts in college and majored in both Museums and Early Childhood Education for a MS Degree. Furthered studies at**

**Columbia University in international and transcultural studies.**

**Has three daughters and 7 grandchildren.**

**Enjoys writing articles and books. Loves country, jazz, zydeco music, especially music from different countries.**

**Not a sports enthusiast, but likes exercising, dancing and learning horseback riding. Enjoys doing various types of art, writing and community involvement.**

**Loves to travel, has visited 40 states. Traveled and studied in Europe, South America and a few African countries.**



## NEW MEMBERS

Linda Englehardt



Take a moment to say, Hello!



Historian, Rick Feingold presents "The Miracle Mets of 1969" from the team's humble beginnings in 1962 to their triumphant 1969 season as World Champions!

Hospitality did a Spring Theme!



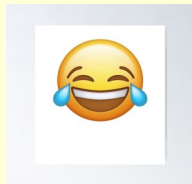
## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Cleaning is just putting stuff in less obvious places and then wondering where you put them.

A police officer came to my house and asked me where I was between 5 & 6. He seemed irritated when I answered: "Kindergarten."

Everyone told Sam not to sing BUT Samsung anyway!!

Where do bad rainbows go?  
To prism. It's a light sentence,  
But it gives them time to reflect!



## HOW VAN NESTE SQUARE GOT ITS NAME?

The Reverend John Alfred Van Neste was born in Somerset County in 1850. Van Neste attended Rutgers University, Class of 1872, became the minister of the First Reformed Church of Ridgewood in mid-19th to early-20th-century Ridgewood.

According to a 2014 article in The Record, Van Neste was a pastor who "helped people of other denominations establish and build their own places of worship, and in the meantime allowed them to use his church."

Indeed, according to "The History of a Village," Van Neste "gave considerable assistance in helping to organize the A.M.E. Zion Church in 1882," helping the congregation find a place to worship until its own building on Broad Street and Highwood Avenue was completed in 1900. The popular preacher died on Nov. 26, 1924. A well-attended funeral was held for him on Nov. 30, referred to by The Ridgewood News as a "great gathering of his friends and parishioners."

The spot where Van Neste Square currently sits was originally called municipal grounds, according to historian Peggy Norris, but was renamed in John Van Neste's honor no later than 1928, remembrance of Van Neste as an adored minister and in

## Lunch & Learn



The first 'Lunch & Learn' was launched Tuesday, April 22, 2025. Gwenn Hauck, former Councilwoman and President of The Community Center of Ridgewood Foundation opened the afternoon of lecture, lunch and chat. The Foundation is the financial branch of our Senior Services and HILT. Our Mayor, Paul Vagianos, spoke to us about his vision for a 'Best Of Bergen' Community Center filled with activities for our Seniors.

The speaker for our first 'Lunch & Learn' was Chris Raimondi, a native of Ridgewood graduating Ridgewood High School. Chris spoke to us about the safety of gardening, adaptive gardening, and rethinking how we tackle the day-to-day challenges of the garden. Use a rolling cart to store and move your gardening tools. Consider buying one of those hoses that shrink up to lessen the struggle when watering. Should you plant in containers or on a raised bed? These and other considerations need to be planned out. Carry your cell phone, wear hard toed shoes, drink water. Great advice to Seniors who are ready to go on with life but are willing to embrace the change and allow adaptive gardening to make life easier and more enjoyable.

Following our speaker, Lunch was enjoyed with lots of conversation. 'Parkwood Deli' outdid themselves with delicious sandwiches, and salads, potato, fruit and macaroni. Friends coming home from 'Wintering in Florida', 'visiting relatives for Easter', and 'sheltering in for the winter due to illness', were happy to see and be seen. Looking forward to our next 'Lunch & Learn'.

Hope to see you there!