



# The Greystone Connection

A Monthly Newsletter

Building the Greystone Community Together!



SEPTEMBER 2022

Published by Susan Schweitzer and Bill Naedler

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Over the past several months, I have become aware of gossip and rumors that have been circulating in our community. Gossip is harmful in all organizations, and our community is no exception. For communities, the spread of rumors and misinformation creates a toxic environment where residents don't feel comfortable; it causes division and reduces the sense of community that our board has been working so hard to build. But the damage, however, doesn't stop there. If left unchecked, gossip among board members and residents hinders operations, undermines productivity and further affects quality of life for the entire community. As a reflection, I would like to share this article by *Dawson McAllister*. My hope is that this article will raise awareness by internalizing these points and be a positive presence within our community, our workplace, and within our families.

### Why Do People Gossip?

It's been said, knowledge is power. Unfortunately, many people like to spread damaging information or intimate details about others, whether true or not. This is what is called gossip. It used to be that people called gossip, dishing the dirt. Whatever it's called, people use gossip to hurt people, in order to feel good about themselves and to feel like they have power over others.

### Gossip Destroys Reputations

If you know something juicy someone did, it's easy to feel like you have to tell others. We especially like it when we hear something that makes someone look bad. Celebrity bloggers and gossip magazines make millions of dollars off of this unfortunate reality. I'm sure you have encountered gossip. Some people seem to thrive on it. Is it time for you to decide you don't want to have any part of it. The most dangerous part about gossip is that it steals another person's reputation. A reputation is very fragile. When you gossip, you are helping to destroy something extremely valuable.

### Stop the Gossip

If it's time for you to commit to no longer have any part of gossip, here are 5 tips on how to do it:

#### 1. Make an intentional decision you're not going to gossip.

Even though the temptation to gossip is powerful, you

always win when you choose not to use it. And really, with all gossip, there's no way of knowing for sure what is true or not.

#### 2. Don't listen to others when they gossip.

**Gossip grows an audience.** You simply being there listening to it adds to its appeal. If someone starts to tell you something gossipy, say, I'm sorry, but I don't feel comfortable talking about this person when they're not here to defend themselves. Not only will you break the gossip chain, but you also will gain the trust of other people, as someone who won't spread rumors. With all gossip, there's no way of knowing what is truth or lies.

#### 3. Don't judge people based on gossip.

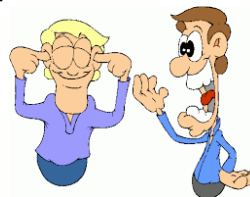
If you should hear gossip about someone you don't know, you have two choices: allow the gossip to determine what you believe, or let your own personal experience determine what you think. The first time you have an experience with someone that is contrary to the gossip you've heard; you'll be a lot more careful about spreading or believing gossip the next time you hear it.

#### 4. Think before you speak.

Before you repeat something you've heard about another person, think: does this really do any good for me to spread this information? Or am I just trying to be in the know? Is the information even true? Could I be hurting someone by telling this, even if it's true? If the person you are talking to is not part of the problem, or part of the solution, there's no need to tell them anything.

#### 5. Stay away from people who gossip to you they will gossip about you.

Don't associate with people who find such great joy in belittling others. Be very careful about what you choose to tell these people. If it's a close friend, you might consider saying how you want to stop spreading gossip, and that you'd really like her help. *There's an old saying, stick and stones can break my bones, but words will never hurt me. That's not true. Being gossiped about can be extremely painful. If you don't want it done to you, don't do it to others. In the end, it never pays to gossip.*



*Bill*

## THE 2022 POOL SEASON COMES TO AN END

Sadly, the summer has flown by so quickly and it is already Labor Day Weekend. Although we are still feeling the humidity and living with high temperatures and very little rain, we are starting to feel a crispness in the night air. Preparation is being made for back to school for the kids and even decorations for Halloween can be seen throughout the stores, which have actually been displaying Halloween candy since July! Where has the summer gone? It seems as if the pool season just began, as we looked forward to this summer's use of the pool. This summer was a very quiet and successful one. Our lifeguards, especially our in-house staff, Eugene and Billy, have been just amazing. They were attentive, pleasant, and did everything possible to keep our swimmers happy and safe. Thanks so much to Steve Kahn who took on the role of Pool Manager when we needed to have a "go-to" person. He worked with Max and the lifeguards to make sure that the pool was running smoothly, as he always does every year. For those of you who enjoy taking a swim for exercise or just to relax after work, etc. we are keeping the pool open past Labor Day and the pool will be in use through the end of September or longer, weather permitting. There will be no lifeguards during the week, all safety locks will be in use, and this will be a "swim at your own risk" situation. All residents using the pool must come with a companion and not swim solo, just in case there is a problem and help is needed. At least, there must be another adult on the pool deck in order for one to swim. The pool will be open during the week from 12 noon until 7:00 PM. On weekends, until further notice and based on pool use, the hours will be from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM. These hours and lifeguard duty discussion will be ongoing, based on our needs. We know that all will cooperate and follow the rules that are made for your safety and well-being.

## MONTHLY REPORTS TO THE COMMUNITY

### *Maintenance*

The Greystone is continuously being updated and spruced up as needed determined by walk-throughs by Max, who sees a need and acts on it and by reports and feedback by the BoD and observant residents. In addition, the following projects are ongoing....

- Boiler project is well underway, and work is on-target. There has been very little disruption or inconvenience for the residents as the lead abatement, removal of the boilers

and other major work is being completed. Keith has been meeting weekly with the boiler staff ensuring that all is going well and that our boilers are up and running for the winter season.

- Garage project is also progressing well, starting on the first level, Keith has been constantly assessing the project and Joel has been working hard to ensure that the movement of cars to temporary spots as needed is done in an organized and efficient manner.
- The exit lights throughout the hallways have been replaced by Max and are noticeably brighter and more efficient.
  - The carpet in the lobby, which was terribly stained, has been cleaned and the stains have been removed.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Greystone finances continue to be in very good standing, with money in the tax escrow available when the tax bill is due and with checks being written for the boiler project and garage project as each phase is completed. In addition, with interest rates on CD's higher than it has been in years, a large part of our reserve funds has been invested in 3 month and 6-month CD's at a rate of 1.5% and 1.9% and we will be looking into even higher rates if possible when these CD's mature.



*Wishing  
Peace and Goodness  
to all our neighbors  
who are Celebrating  
Religious Holy Days  
this month.*

## SEPTEMBER RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

- 9/10-9/25 - Pitru Paksha (Hindu)
- 9/17 - Arbaeen (Muslim)
- 9/25-9/27 - Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
- 9/26-10/4 - Navaratri (Hindu)



## GREYSTONE COMMITTEES, ACTIVITIES, EVENTS

### THE GREYSTONE READERS' CIRCLE

The Greystone Readers' Circle will take place on:



Date: Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

Time: 7:30 – 8:30 PM

Where: Via ZOOM

Book: *Freedom*

Author: Jonathan Franzen

In charting the mistakes and joys of the characters, Franzen offers us a portrait of our time, comically and tragically capturing the temptations and burdens of liberty: the thrills of teenage lust, the shaken compromises of middle age, the wages of suburban sprawl, the heavy weight of empire. This book is 576 pages, just for your information. All are welcome to attend, even if you don't read the book or don't have time to read the book but want to listen to the discussion.

*All are WELCOME!!*

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### DONATIONS TO BUILDING AND DISPOSING OF ITEMS

If you have an item that you want to donate to the building, please do not leave it in the Lobby, Community Room or in any of the public areas of the building. Take a picture of the item and email it to the *Décor Committee* at

[Greystonedecor@gmail.com](mailto:Greystonedecor@gmail.com).

The Décor Committee will decide whether the item is something the building could use.

#### *Reminder:*

Furniture, lamps, bedding, carpeting, appliances or other large items may never be left in elevators, hallways, stairwells or compactor rooms. Consult the Superintendent for disposal instructions. There is a \$25.00 disposal fee for each large item.

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### COMMITTEES

Thinking of how you can get more involved in our community? Why not join a committee? A list of committees is posted on the Board bulletin boards in the mailrooms. Send your interest to [president1085@gmail.com](mailto:president1085@gmail.com) and your name will be given to the chair of the committee.



## SPOTLIGHT ON FALL HAPPENINGS

We want to shine a spotlight on all the wonderful fall events near and around The Greystone. September and October are great months to participate in outdoor activities that you can enjoy with the entire family. Don't forget....

- Untermyer Gardens - 945 N Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Ridge Hill Outdoor Mall - One Ridge Hill Boulevard, Yonkers, NY 10710
- Hudson River Museum - 511 Warburton Ave, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Van Der Donck Park – 1 Larkin Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Philipse Manor Hall – 29 Warburton Ave. Yonkers, NY 10701
- Science Barge - 99 Dock St, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Lenoir Preserve - 19 Dudley St, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Center For Urban River Beczak - 35 Alexander St, Yonkers, NY 10701
- Yonkers Riverfest – Downtown Yonkers – Saturday, September 17th
- Harvest Moon Farm/ Orchard "Pick-Your-Own" – apple, berry, etc.
- Hilltop Hanover Farm – Pick your own apples, berries, pumpkins....
- Kykuit – Former Rockefeller estate
- Sunnyside – Washington Irving's house
- New Croton Dam
- Glen Island Park
- Van Cortlandt Manor
- Town of Sleepy Hollow
- Rye Nature Center
- Edith G Read Wildlife Sanctuary

The above are just some ideas of local places and events to visit during the fall months. Most of these are outdoors, for those who are being careful due to Covid19. Just a walk over the Mario M Cuomo Bridge is a great way to spend a few hours. Take advantage of what Westchester County has to offer



### **Open Board ZOOM Meeting**

September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

*Zoom link will be emailed to you.*



# Building the Greystone Community Together!

*The Board of Directors has decided to keep our pool open,  
as weather permits, for your enjoyment.*

***It is important and Imperative to follow the  
below pool rules for a safe and enjoyable time  
on the pool deck.***

- All gates will be open for pool access:  
Weekdays from 12 PM to 7 PM. Weekends 11 AM to 7 PM  
To enter, use the security code. (0327)
- Safety equipment will be left on the table next to the pool.
- After 7 PM, the 2 most westerly gates will stay open until 8:30 PM for BBQing.  
To enter, use the security code. (0327)

**Weekdays there will be**  
**"NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY,  
SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK"**  
*(Lifeguards are present only on Weekends)*

**LIMITED HOURS: Weekdays 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM**  
**Weekends 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM**

- CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16 **MUST BE ACCOMPANIED** BY AN ADULT.
- NO INDIVIDUAL** IS PERMITTED TO BE IN THE POOL UNLESS ANOTHER ADULT IS ON THE POOL DECK.
- ANY VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN REVOCATION OF POOL PRIVILEGES.