



Hilton Neighborhood Association ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, February 18th at 7:30pm

Community Celebration of Black History Month

Hilton Neighbors and Friends Celebrate Black History
with Songs, Readings and Poetry



www.ZOOM.com
Click on Join A Meeting
Mtg ID: 828 1918 3589
Password: 013698

From the Editor

Last month, Abby Sullivan shared her heartfelt story on struggling to cope with the pandemic like so many other teens across the country. In this issue, you will read about Roslyn Goodwin’s struggles as a frontline worker.

There is no question that this pandemic has tested our hearts and minds like never before and we hope you are as moved by these stories about our friends and neighbors as we are.

As we celebrate Black History month, read Langston Hughes “Let America Be America” (below) which is as poignant today as it was when it was first written.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Zoom meeting for more poetry, other readings and songs!

Sheron Hansel



Township Update

By Township Committeeman Vic De Luca

Leaf Blower Ban Expanded

The Township Committee passed an ordinance expanding the prohibited time that gas powered leaf blowers cannot be used. It is now May 1st rather than May 15th. It remains through September 30th. Additionally, the new ordinance applies to residents as well as lawn maintenance businesses. The use of gas-powered leaf blowers are not permitted on Sundays by residents and businesses.

- Gas powered leaf blowers are prohibited from May 1st through September 30th.
- From October 1st through April 30th, gas powered leaf blowers are only permitted on Monday through Friday from 8am to 6pm and on Saturday from 10am to 5pm.
- Gas leaf blowers are not permitted on Sunday.
- No one is permitted to place leaves in the street more than 7 days before the scheduled pick-up by Public Works.



Cont.

Over 55 Hilton Residents Attended Our January Zoom Meeting

Moderated by Vic De Luca for a candid conversation with representatives from TerrAscend, a NJ-licensed Alternative Treatment Center. The center is scheduled to open in the spring of 2021 at 1865 Springfield Avenue (former Wolfpack Fitness Center). To learn more about the company visit <https://www.terrascend.com/>.

Congratulations to our Favorite Bakery, the Bread Stand, Celebrating Their Two-Year Anniversary!

Read their remarkable story on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/thebreadstand>

Maplewood Hires Jerry Giaimis as New Township Administrator



Maplewood was introduced to its new Township Administrator at a recent TC meeting. Jerry Giaimis previously served as Administrator of Saddle River, and will begin serving Maplewood on March 8.

RECENT HILTON HOME SALES (January 2020)

Home	Listed	Sold
192 Burnett Avenue, #10 2 bd/1 bth (Sold in 48 days)	\$ 244,900	\$ 250,000
64 Hughes Street 4 bd/1 bth (Sold in 14 days)	\$ 399,000	\$ 400,000
43 Tuscan Street 4 bd/2.1 bth (Sold in 23 days)	\$ 649,000	\$ 635,000
107 Hilton Street 4 bd/2.2 bth (Sold in 32 days)	\$ 699,900	\$ 680,000

LET AMERICA BE AMERICA AGAIN

By Langston Hughes (1902-1967)

Let America be America again.
Let it be the dream it used to be.
Let it be the pioneer on the plain
Seeking a home where he himself is free.

(America never was America to me.)

Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed—
Let it be that great strong land of love
Where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme
That any man be crushed by one above.

(It never was America to me.)

O, let my land be a land where Liberty
Is crowned with no false patriotic wreath,
But opportunity is real, and life is free,
Equality is in the air we breathe.

(Read the full poem at: <https://poets.org/poem/let-america-be-america-again>)



Township Committee to Approve Library Bond

On February 16th the Township Committee will hold a hearing and take a final vote on a \$12 million bond for the new library building. The nearly \$20 million project will be funded by an \$8.4 million grant from the State of New Jersey, \$1 million from the Maplewood Library Foundation, additional fund raising from the public, and \$10.2 million from the Township. The bond is for \$12 million to make certain there are sufficient moneys for the project due to the timing of the state grant and private fundraising efforts. The debt will be reduced upon receipt of the state and foundation grants.

Architects and engineers are now working with Maplewood Library staff and board members to come up with the final design of the new building. In the fall, the library building is expected to relocate to the Hilton Branch and other public space. Construction on the new building will begin in early 2022 and will be finished by the fall of 2023.

- Vic

We Are Over the Pandemic, But the Pandemic Is Not Over

By Roslyn Goodwin

My life in the military, as a soldier, and now as a registered nurse, seems to be parallel at this point and I can't really say which job is harder. Both roles called for sacrifice and commitment. Although, when I signed up for the Army, I knew I would be risking my life for my country, but when I chose a medical profession, I didn't know I would again be jeopardizing my life for my career choice.

The past year has been frustrating. I want to tell people in the grocery store to back up six feet and the person walking past me down the street to pull their mask up over their nose. It's continual reminders to my family to wash their hands as soon as they come in the house. It's keeping my coworkers vigilant and reminding them that we cannot get lax around each other.

I have read articles and heard news stories that imply that nurses made this career choice and risking our lives are part of the job. The rationing of personal protective equipment, the disregard for science and safety has many nurses wondering if we are essential or dispensable? I've had colleagues and friends die from this virus. I know some nurses who are so scared and burned out at this point, that they have chosen to retire.

I'll admit that being recently revered as a hero doesn't dismiss being human and having the same fears as the people who rely on you. The best way to say thank you to nurses, doctors, frontline and essential workers is to remain diligent, consistent in our efforts to stay healthy and each do our part in stopping the spread of this terrible virus.

Roslyn has been a Hilton Resident for more than 21 years and is also a fellow HNA Executive Board Member

Taking Care of Yourself this Winter and Shop Springfield Avenue

We have covered the importance of taking care of our mental health during the pandemic but now that the winter months are here it's especially important that we do so along with taking care of our bodies. Here are some general wellness tips for staying healthy during these colder, darker winter months:

Wash your hands regularly and shop Good Bottle Refill Shop for BYO Refill soaps, New Jersey's first refill shop located in the General Store Cooperative and try their limited edition, peppermint grapefruit or their best-selling lemon Eucalyptus lotions.

Take your vitamins, and drink hot tea - Visit Herbal Life Nutrition Center and Pro Elie Nutrition Company for all your vitamin needs. Also, stop by Dollar General and pick up an assortment of teas.

Enjoy hot baths/showers, and invest in your favorite moisturizer. Try Good Bottle Refill Shop's lavender peppermint body wash body and lotion or Botanical Kinetics hydrating line of products sold at Fringe Aveda's Salon (by appointment).

Prioritize working out and experiment with outdoor winter sports to rediscover the beauty of the colder months - winter can be quite beautiful. And while you are at it, get some sun. Not into winter sports? Just take a walk in Dehart Park or stroll through the neighborhood and say hello to those you meet along the way and don't forget your sunscreen!

Make time to get cozy & relax. Or reenergize through meditation or guided visualization exercises. For this you will need some scented candles. Check out an assortment of exotic RX Los Angeles candles from ReMerch and try owner John Estrada's personal favorite Bora Bora.

!!MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER!!

Letters and Membership Forms were mailed to all members with a new payment option. If you haven't yet received yours or if you have any questions, please contact us at hna.maplewood@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- Visit the Maplewood Township Website <https://www.twp.maplewood.nj.us/> to get current information on Covid-19 vaccines or call (973) 762-8120.
- The HNA meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30pm (for now via Zoom only).

Suggestion Box: Have a request, suggestion or concern? Send it to hna.maplewood@gmail.com.

Did a friend forward you this Newsletter? You can subscribe by emailing: hna.maplewood@gmail.com.

**Hilton Neighborhood Association
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