



## Hilton Neighborhood Association

**ZOOM Meeting** Thursday, January 21st at 7:30pm

### Medical Marijuana Center Coming to Maplewood

Join us for a discussion with representatives from TerrAscend NJ which will open a NJ-licensed Alternative Treatment Center at 1865 Springfield Avenue (former Wolfpack Fitness Center). The ATC is scheduled to open in the Spring of 2021.



Go to [www.ZOOM.com](http://www.ZOOM.com)

1. Click on Join A Meeting
2. Type in the Meeting ID: 989 4978 8906
3. Type in the Password: 741796

## A Message from Our President

Happy New Year from the HNA to all of our members and Hilton residents!

January newsletters usually reflect upon the previous year. It is an understatement to say that most of us have had enough of 2020. However, there are some accomplishments that are worth noting:

Many of us have become more internet savvy in order to stay in touch with friends and family. We've become problem solvers who look for innovative ways to achieve our goals. We've spent more time outdoors as we look for safe ways to exercise. We've looked around to see who in our community is in need and how we can help them.

Some members of our community have lost loved ones or had their own health compromised. Our sympathy and prayers go out to you. Please reach out if you need assistance from the HNA.

The HNA would like to commend all of our Township employees. They have worked tirelessly to keep us well informed and to establish ways for Maplewood to function and support our residents and businesses.

We would like to give a special shout out to Candace Davenport, Maplewood's Health Officer, and her team at the Maplewood Health Department. Candace is a former Hilton resident and has served on the HNA Executive Board. She and her Health Department team have worked diligently to keep us safe! Thank you, Candace and the Maplewood Health Department!

Stay safe, everyone! Masks on, socially distance, wash your hands – you know the drill! Looking forward to another great year of community in the Hilton neighborhood. 2021, here we come!

Mary Boehner



## HNA Township Update

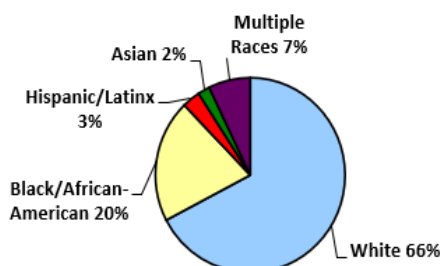
By Vic De Luca, Township Committeeman

### Township Boards and Committees

There are over 120 volunteers appointed by the Township Committee who serve on 17 Boards and Committees of the Township. One of the goals of the Township is to make sure

Board and Committee membership reflects the diversity of the community. Each year we compile information on these members to help us make appointments that will further diversity. Here is what the 2020 membership looked like:

- 56% female; 43% male & 1% transgender/non-binary
- 5% 19 years of age and under; 0% 20-29 years; 40% 30-49 years; 45% 50-69 years & 10% 70 years and over
- 95% homeowners & 5% tenants
- 5% members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender & Queer (LGBTQ) Community
- 27% have lived in Maplewood for 0 to 10 years; 34% 11 to 20 years; 19% 21 to 30 years; 20% over 30 years
- 42% have served on a Board of Committee for 1 or 2 years; 29% for 3 to 6 years; 7% for 7 to 10 years & 22% for over 10 years
- Racial breakdown is as follows:



Cont.

**Here is What Went down** at our Holiday Zoom Party in December – Santa (our very own Vic DeLuca) arrived promptly at 7pm and was joined by kids of all ages who asked some serious questions.

Thanks to the Sullivan family – John, his wife Lauren, and daughters, Abigail, Annie and Sarah, for hosting. Abigail and Annie put together a video collection of some of the most festive holiday decorated homes in our neighborhood. After which, we were treated to some fun trivia questions.

Prizes were awarded as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place, Lila and Vivienne Brehm; 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Malik and Aliyah Ouedraogo; and 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Suzanne Ryan;

It was a lively, festive and fun meeting, so thanks for spending the evening with us!

## Final Call for Student Musicians, Poets & Artists



Let us know if you have or know of a teen who would like to participate in our Zoom celebration of Black History month in

February 2021. Participation could be through the form of poetry readings, skits, music, etc.; just send an email to [hna.maplewood@gmail.com](mailto:hna.maplewood@gmail.com).

## Over 120 Hilton Residents Heeded our Call to Help Feed the Hungry!

Our Food Drive held on Sat. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> to benefit the St. Joseph Food Pantry Ministry was such a huge success that the pantry ran out of shelf space.



"I'm thrilled with today's food drive. The shelves are fully stocked and we had a constant stream of donations," said our HNA President Mary Bohner.

Every month a group of volunteers gather to

bag and prepare the food for distribution on designated Saturdays. Basic food items are donated or purchased and stored in the Parish House.

To volunteer, or if you have food you would like to donate, please contact Dominic Pirozzi at 973-462-1595. Non-perishable food items are welcome and can be dropped off at 245 Hilton Avenue from 8:30-9:00 am and 11:00-11:30 am on Sundays or by appointment.

## !!Membership Dues!!

It's that time again to renew your membership dues. Letters and Membership Forms have been mailed to all members with payment options. If you haven't yet received yours or if you have any questions, please contact us at [hna.maplewood@gmail.com](mailto:hna.maplewood@gmail.com).

You can find out more information about the Township's Boards and Committees and the Volunteer Resource Form at <https://www.twp.maplewood.nj.us/township-committee/webforms/community-volunteer-resource-program>. We welcome new applicants.

### COVID-19 Vaccinations

Essex County has begun administering the COVID vaccine. The vaccination site for Maplewood residents is the former Sears building in the Livingston Mall. Vaccines are being given based on a priority established by federal and state health officials. More information can be found at <https://www.twp.maplewood.nj.us/COVID19>

### Springfield Avenue Traffic Signal Retiming

All 10 traffic signals on Springfield Ave have been reprogrammed and retimed to provide more efficient travel time, less vehicle congestion, and fewer vehicles on our side streets since the corridor is much more free-flowing. Motorists should now expect a much more efficient and enjoyable driving experience on the Avenue. The Township and County of Essex split the costs for the improvements.



- Vic

### Hilton Holiday Decorations Winners

Each year Janey and Vic De Luca drive through the entire Hilton neighborhood to select Holiday Decorations Winners. They look for original designs, colorful displays, and special looks.

Here are the seven winners who will each receive a gift card from the Bread Stand.



46 Princeton Street



48 Wellesley Street



62 Concord Avenue



155 Lexington Avenue



180 Indiana Street



184 Hilton Avenue



170 Jacoby Street

### RECENT HILTON HOME SALES (December 2020)

Home	Listed	Sold
321 Boyden Ave	\$280,000	\$225,900
32 Lexington Ave	\$350,000	\$340,000
19 Berkley St.	\$399,000	\$399,000
24 Tuscan St	\$419,000	\$500,000
228 Tuscan Rd	\$422,000	\$460,000
7 Marion Ter	\$425,000	\$425,000
146 Franklin Ave	\$450,000	\$475,000

**Test Your Pandemic Vocabulary** to see if you are on top of the strange new words that were created to describe these strange new times.

See how many you can get! (Answers below)

1. What do you call a small group of people you agree to socialize with during lockdowns and social distancing?
2. What is the name given to the unfortunate side effect of wearing a mask?
3. What do you call someone who boldly flouts basic coronavirus safety guidelines?
4. What do you call it when you can't stop looking at social media, even though everything is terrible and it makes you sad?
5. On the other hand, what's the term for scrolling through social media when something great has happened, and you just can't get enough?
6. If you're in the mood to get intimate with someone, but you have to do it over video call, what do you call it?
7. When time runs together, weeks become months and months lose their meaning, what day is it?
8. What's the signature lockdown drink (no matter what ingredients are involved)?
9. What is the term for the questionable style some people end up sporting when they must do their own hair maintenance at home?
10. And finally, what term do we use to denote anything that happened before, say, March 2020?

1. Quaranteam, 2. Maskne, 3. Covidiot, 4. Doomscrolling, 5. Gleafreshing, 6. A Zooty Call, 7. Blursday, 8. Quarantini, 9. Coronocut, 10. The Before Times.

### Coping During the Pandemic from a Teen's Perspective

By Abby Sullivan

Everyone has taken some serious hits in 2020 and I am lucky to say that my family has come out almost completely unscathed, but as a teenager quarantine was definitely a very difficult thing to handle. I went from hanging out with my friends basically every day in December to not being able to see them in the depths of quarantine for almost three months. I personally do struggle with anxiety as well as a pretty big fear of germs so I was struggling at this time mentally but to make things worse, at the end of March my aunt who was an essential worker did catch a serious case of COVID-19 and the mix with not knowing the full effects of this illness as well as not being able to see her and help out made it extremely difficult. There were times where I felt helpless, but we got through it and I think that this has made me stronger. School was, and still is, extremely difficult to do during this time. During the last school year when we were in full lockdown, school was difficult because not only was I trying to get school done with two younger siblings and my two parents working from home as well, but we also weren't doing Zoom meetings at this time so I never got to talk to my teachers face-to-face about the things I was struggling with. I also lost all motivation to get my work done because I had other things to worry about so I did fall behind in school and I am currently still trying to gain my motivation back as well as trying to catch up so I don't ruin my GPA during my junior year. Although this has definitely been hard, I think this time in my life has very clearly made me stronger and I think this has been a challenging but also very important learning experience for everyone. I know now more than ever how important family is as well as not taking your loved ones for granted. Before this it felt like all my family members would be with me forever but hearing how people are losing their loved ones everyday taught me to be thankful to have my family with me.

Abby along with her parents, John and Lauren, and siblings, Annie and Sarah are Hilton residents who are active members in our community. She attends Columbia High School

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at DeHart Community Center (for now via Zoom).

**Suggestion Box:** Have a request, suggestion or concern? Send it to [hna.maplewood@gmail.com](mailto:hna.maplewood@gmail.com).

**Did a friend forward you this Newsletter?** You can subscribe by emailing: [hna.maplewood@gmail.com](mailto:hna.maplewood@gmail.com).

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