

# LIONS PRIDE

A PUBLICATION OF LIONS HEAD SOUTH ASSOCIATION, BRICK NJ

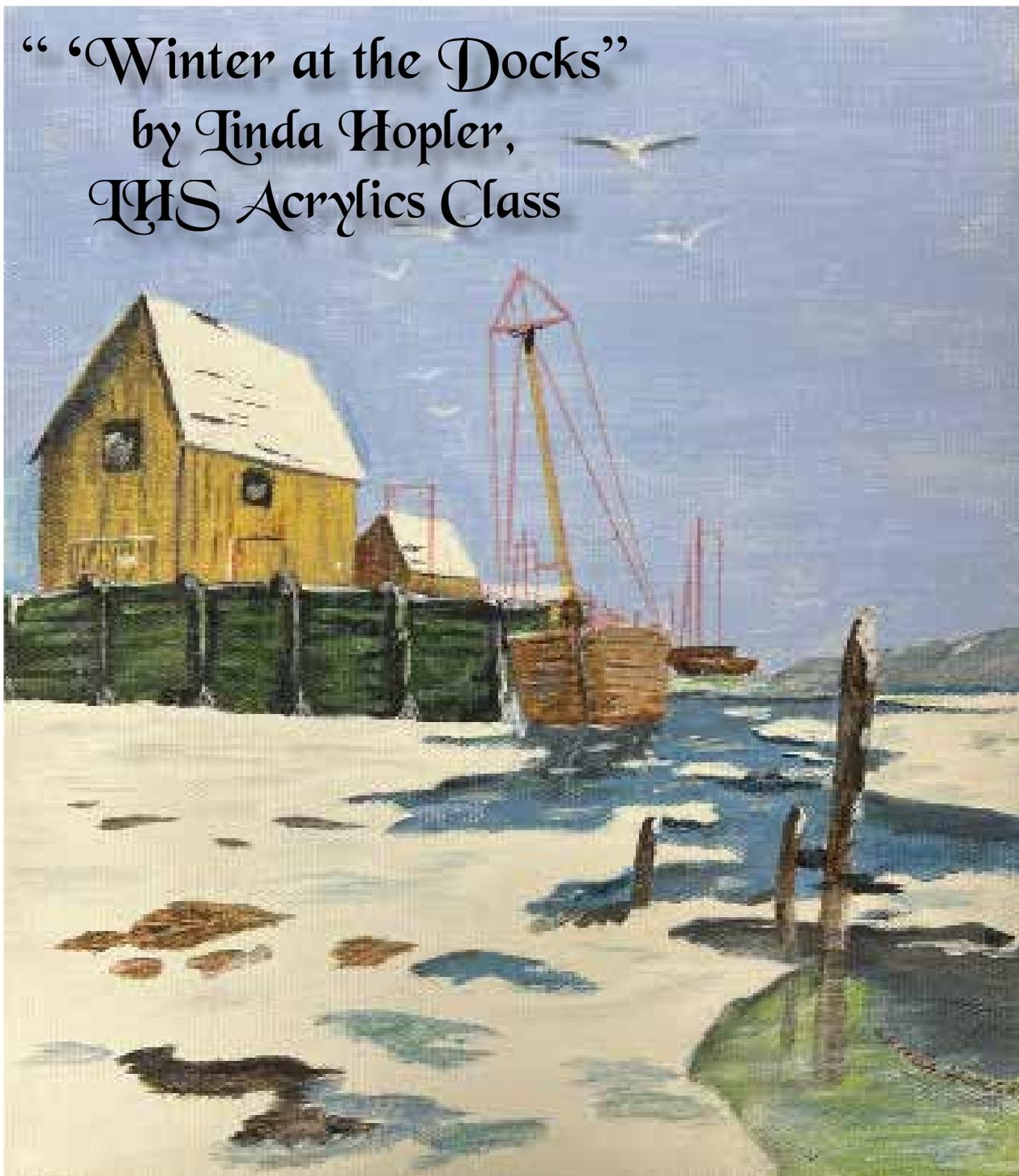


VOLUME 12 NO. 1

JANUARY 2026

## “ “Winter at the Docks”

by Linda Hopler,  
LHS Acrylics Class



**The Lions Pride** is published monthly, and is distributed gratis to homes in Lions Head South.

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- Buildings & Grounds
- Bylaws
- Clubhouse
- Community Awareness
- Finance & Insurance
- LHCC
- Election
- Recreation
- Security/Safety
- Website

**CHAIRPERSON**

**T-B-R**

**ATTENTION**

**As of September 22, 2025, LHSA will no longer be providing financial information open to public access. LHSA residents may view the Unaudited Financial Statement posted outside of the Administrative Office.**

[lionspridepub@lionsheadsouth.com](mailto:lionspridepub@lionsheadsouth.com)

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Kathleen Wright*

"I pray this winter be gentle and kind--  
A season of rest from the wheel of the mind."

*John Gedde*

After living in Lions Head South for 20+ years, and spending many years working with committees, the chorus, editing the Pride, and the Board of Trustees, I'm retiring and passing the torch to many others. It has been my choice and pleasure to be an active member of our community, and I hope I set a good example for others. Our community is thankful for all of our volunteers and the many challenges we have met together — IT REALLY DOES TAKE A VILLAGE!

The Board couldn't have accomplished all of our goals these past few years without the support and guidance from our administrator Lin and our entire staff. Not having to deal with a Management Team is a blessing. I'm not sure many understand what it means to be Self-Managed by a Board and loyal staff, and I certainly hope this continues for LHS into the future.

Enjoy the winter slow-down and welcome 2026! Time is precious, and living here can be a joy if we keep the community spirit!

"Snow isn't just pretty. It also senses, not just of the soot and grime of a mining town, but also of a kind of familiarity, a taken-for-granted quality to which our eyes are all too susceptible."

*John Burnside*

## **2026 ADMINISTRATIVE HOURS**

**Please note effective January 1, 2026, the administrative office door will be closed at 12:00 PM**

**Residents will be able to conduct business, Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Office staff hours will remain 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM. If required, you may contact the office to schedule an appointment outside of the scheduled business hours.**

**Respectfully Yours,  
Lin Kolesa, Administrator  
TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## EDITORIAL

*Carol Powell*

Wow, 2026! It would seem that time really does fly as you age because I swear it was just the 2025 new year yesterday!

As we settle into the winter of 2026, I hope everyone has made at least tentative plans for fun things to do indoors. Lions Head South certainly offers many options, obvious to anyone who reads the Pride. Read a good book, tackle a new project, learn a new skill, the choices are endless. How about writing down some of your history for your family to have when the time comes. It's a good way to reflect on the past while looking forward to adding another chapter in the future. How about submitting something for the Pride. Anyone in your family accomplish something special that you want to brag about? Is there a family story you would love to share with your friends and neighbors? Don't worry about how well you write, that's what I'm here for.

Find what works for you and enjoy the winter while looking forward to warm weather and outside activities.

Most importantly, as always, stay safe and stay well.



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December 29th  
January 4th, 11th  
and 18th

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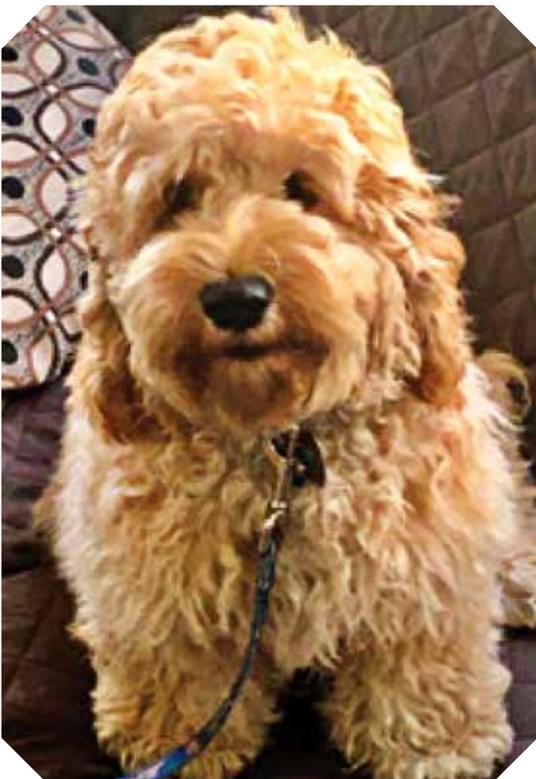


# PET CORNER



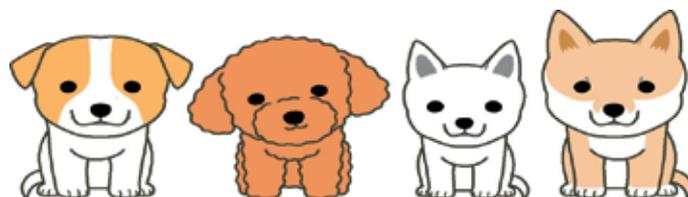
## GROOMING SHEA

*By Deborah Krause*



Paul and I became ‘paw-rents’ on July 8, 2020, and life changed quickly with a new puppy in our home. As time went on we all adjusted to each other and life was grand on our favorite boardwalk in Asbury Park, where we lived at the time. However, we eventually had to face the issue of grooming (see his ‘shaggy dog’ picture at the right). I have been cutting Paul’s hair since we were married and I reasoned that we could do the same with Shea. We purchased on-line a grooming arm, non-slip mat, two razors and scissors.

We hook up the grooming arm to a folding table and went to work learning how to groom Shea. Shea was used to being brushed and to my ruthless quest to free him of all mats; so he stood patiently as we practiced our grooming technique. At first we were timid and grooming Shea took about an hour and a half each month. Over time with both of us working on him we spend about an hour and try to groom him every two weeks when our schedules allow. The paws and ears are still the hardest areas to groom for us, but each time we improve and love saving money. Also grooming can be expensive.



# LIONS HEAD SOUTH ASSOCIATION, INC.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULE FOR 2026 – APPROVED NOVEMBER 17, 2025

### January

- 5 9:00 AM BOT Ratification of 2026 Officers  
12 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting  
26 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports  
BOT Ratification of 2026 Standing Committee Chairpersons,  
and Members

### February

- 9 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting  
9 7:00 PM Residents Informational Meeting  
23 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

### March

- 9 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting  
23 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

### April

- 13 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting  
13 7:00 PM Residents Informational Meeting  
27 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports  
27 7:00 PM Meeting with New Members – Since October 2025

### May

- 4 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting  
18 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

### June

- 8 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting  
8 7:00 PM Residents Informational Meeting  
22 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

## LIONS HEAD SOUTH ASSOCIATION, INC.

### MEETINGS SCHEDULE FOR 2026 – APPROVED NOVEMBER 17, 2025

#### July

- 13 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting
- 27 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

#### August

- 10 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting
- 10 7:00 PM Residents Informational Meeting
- 24 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

#### September

- 14 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting
- 28 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

#### October

- 5 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting
- 5 7:00 PM Residents Informational Meeting - Trustee Candidates' Night
- 19 7:00 PM Meeting with New Members (since April 2026)
- 19 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

#### November

- 2 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Review - F & I 2027 Budget Recommendation
- 9 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting
- 9 1:00 PM Annual Meeting – 2027 BOT Ballot Tally
- 16 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

#### December

- 7 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting
- 7 7:00 PM Residents Informational Meeting - 2027 Budget Presentation
- 8 9:00 AM Board of Trustees - Straw Poll 2027 Officers
- 14 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting - Standing Committee Reports

Approved – November 17, 2025



# Let's Party

UPCOMING  
EVENTS  
2026

LHS SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Sun. Feb 15 - Wine Tasting  
(afternoon)

Sat. April 11 - Comedy Night

Sun. May 3 - Cinco De Mayo party

Fri. July 10 - Outdoor Block  
Party - live music/food

Sun. Sept. 20 - Fall Fest  
(outdoor event)

Sat. Oct. 30 - Halloween Party

Sat. Dec. 12 - Christmas Car  
Parade

Thur. Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve  
Party

All events tentative and  
subject to change

# meet YOUR NEIGHBORS

## RICH & Kathy Szymanski

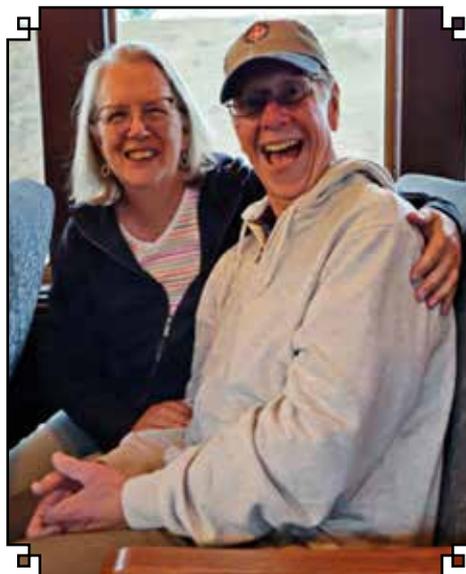
*By Deborah Krause*



Rich and Kathy have lived at LHS since June 2018. They have been residents of Brick since 1985, and are happy to be close to their grandchildren. They enjoy the friendliness of the LHS community and meeting other residents as they walk their dog, Rue; who was featured in the Pet Corner of The Pride (August, 2025). Rich and Kathy like to attend various social events that LHS offers, such as dinner dances, chorus concerts, the Bob Scott game night, the Holiday Party, Cinco de Mayo and even residents' meetings. Rich is active in the Men's and A/V Clubs; while Kathy works on The Pride Review and Community Awareness Committees.

During their 7 years in LHS, Rich and Kathy have become close with their neighbors. This group watches out for each other and enjoys connecting with others who have similar interests. For example, they are part of a group that likes to play guitar. Through this group, they have met Ken Rott, Tom Gannon, Billy Pair, and others. Rich is a train enthusiast and loves showing off his garden train to visitors. Kathy enjoys traveling, Rich not so much, but occasionally she is able to convince him to join her on her trips. Rich shares that twelve years ago, Kathy was very sick and his world shifted away from his job, sports and other activities to their relationship. He is very thankful for Kathy's recovery and how this experience helped their marriage to grow.

When asked to share something that they have learned from other residents at LHS, Rich and Kathy shared the following, "We are at a point where we are seeking peace of mind. We want to keep "the bumps in the road" to a minimum, increasing our sense of wellbeing. Being involved with others in our community leads to a sense of camaraderie." Their hope is that we will all "seek to live together in a world without criticizing folks who feel differently and do things differently. It really is easier to work with each other than fight with each other. Rich and Kathy encourage everyone to become involved, attend residents' meetings to become familiar with the community, join a club, participate in an activity, and contribute their talents to keep LHS a desirable place to live. You will make some new friends in the process.



# LIONS HEAD SOUTH

## New Residents - 2025

Sarina DePeri, Angelo.....4 Ashford Dr.  
 Concetta R/S Swiechocki Estate  
 Ciurleo, Ralph.....36 Thames Pl.  
 R/S Ferene Estate  
 Reilly, James & Donna.....162 Lions Head Blvd. S.  
 R/S Tormey  
 Florio, Charles & Evelyn.....238 Lions Head Blvd. S.  
 R/S Cartine

## Deceased Residents - 2025

Edwards, Arthur G.....198 Lions Head Blvd. S.  
 ???????  
 Bradley, Adele.....14 Thames Pl.  
 11/16/2025  
 Hamaydi, Sandra.....39 Lauren Ln.  
 11/17/2025



## COMMUNITY AWARENESS

*Deb Rodgers*

Happy New Year Lions Head South Residents,  
 I hope everyone had a nice time with family and friends this past holiday season. It's time to go to work. Since this article had to be in so early, we really don't have much to report.

We are hoping to have the following speakers this year:  
 Officer Finelli from the Brick township PD  
 The Mayor of Brick

Philip Zimmerman/Vincent Camporeale – Veterans Affairs of Ocean County.

Once we attend the Mayor's Senior Advisory meeting, we will have additional information of what's going on in town.

We will be looking into having the AARP Defensive Driving Course, County Connection and the Health Fair. Dates to be announced.

Our first meeting of the year will be January 14, 2026 @ 10am.

Did you know that you could setup a Property Alert? With all the scams out there, it's always good to try to get ahead of issues before they become a problem. Go to <https://www.oceancountyclerk.com>. Click on the E-Record & Recording button. Click on the tab for Property Alert Service, then click sign up today. When anything changes for your property, you will get an email stating something has changed. If you get one, that will be your clue to contact the County Clerk's office to see what has changed.

Remember, all this information can be found on the township website <https://www.bricknj.gov>. You also can find information in the Mayor's Senior Advisory meeting minutes that are posted on the Lions Head South website under Community Awareness.

When you're in the Clubhouse, look at our bulletin boards. We post a lot of information that may be of interest.

If you know someone who would like to speak at one of our residents' meetings, please reach out to myself or one of our members.

That's all for now!! May you all have a wonderful holiday season with family and friends.



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## GARDEN CLUB

Written by Clare Mathiasen

Submitted by Lucy Coburn

Ah, the dull, grey days of winter are here with less sunlight and cold temperatures. It is the time of year when this article is usually none existent or contains the hum-drum clean your tools, browse the seed catalogs, clean your houseplants, etc.

Since the holiday festivities are over to occupy our minds, you may be wondering about how much snow fall is forthcoming and the inconvenience it imposes. Let's talk about the positive nature of snow from a gardening perspective.

Have you ever heard of "poor man's fertilizer"? This is an old Yankee expression that refers to snow. Snowflakes as they form and fall absorb nitrates from the atmosphere and then release these nutrients into the soil as the snow melts. A blanket of snow forms microorganisms underneath through two main ways: (1) microorganisms are trapped within the snow pack itself, and (2) snow cover creates a whole environment where existing soil and leaf-litter microbes, (such as fungi, algae, bacteria) become active. It is an important winter habitat that is active even in freezing temperatures and is crucial for nutrient cycling in the soil, especially during the snow melt period. This is most beneficial as the earth warms to re-energize the soil and come alive in the Spring. With the above in mind, perhaps you will never again think of snow as a nuisance.

On the lighter side, below are a couple of garden jokes to brighten your day.

Q: Which vegetable did Noah leave off the ark?

A: Leeks!

Why can't the flower ride his bike?

A: Because he lost his petals!

Q: Why didn't anyone laugh at the gardener's jokes?

A: Because they were too corny!

Q: Why did the tomato blush?

A: Because it saw salad dressing.

Puns and One-Liners:

I'm a gardener down to-ma-toes!

My fungi crop failed. There's mushroom for improvement I used to be afraid of gardening but then I decided to grow a pear

I'm making a hat out of herbs from my garden. My friends say it's a waste of thyme

My front lawn is chicken proof, it's impeccable!

It's always summer thyme in my garden

Lettuce turnip the beet

The Garden Club does not meet December through February, however, we will return to monthly meetings in March. Join us on the second Wednesday, March 11th, at 10:30 am and become part of the 2026 planning and potting.

*Stay warm and Happy New Year*

## LIBRARY

Janet Pedersen

Happy New Year to all our LHS residents! We, the LHS Library Committee, hope you all enjoyed a Happy Hannukah and Merry Christmas, and are ready to enjoy what 2026 has in store for us.

Did you know that there are several words/titles used to describe those who love books? A **book enthusiast** is one who is passionate about reading and is constantly seeking out new books. A **bookworm** is a term widely used to describe someone who spends a lot of time reading. Finally, the most formal term referring to someone who loves and collects books is a **bibliophile** (Latin for book lover).

There are also words to describe those who enjoy jigsaw puzzles. The most common term for this is a **puzzler**. An **enigmatologist** is a more general term for someone who not only enjoys jigsaws, but also word and logic puzzles. The most formal term for a person who enjoys assembling jigsaw puzzles, once called dissected maps, is **dissectologist**.

No matter which title you go by, the complimentary Lions Head Library is just a short walk or car ride away and is available to all. Now that the colder months are upon us and you likely have more time for indoor leisurely activities, please take advantage of what our library has to offer.

All items can be borrowed at any time for as long as you wish without the need to sign anything out. We only ask that all are returned in the same condition they were taken. Please place returned items on the "return book" shelves for our staff to restock.

Here's wishing everyone a happy, safe and healthy 2026!

## MEN'S CLUB

Rich Szymanski

While I am writing this article in late November, I can say with certainty that the Holiday Dinner and Breakfast w/Santa were successful events!

The key to success for the new year will be volunteer involvement at chairing and coordinating events. We still need an Executive Board Secretary. There is just too much work for just the executive board members to run all of the activities.

There will be no luncheon in January, but there will be an executive board meeting on January 28th at 9 AM in the clubhouse to discuss the staffing and execution of events for the new year.

Wishing the community a Happy New Year.

## THE RECIPE BOX

*Sue Auer*

Wishes for a beautiful NEW YEAR filled with lot's of good HEALTH, HAPPINESS, PEACE and LOVE!

This January article is dedicated to a longtime LHS resident, neighbor and friend who has supported and contributed to the page with her best idea's and recipes.

Although Carol Brower is no longer with us, her spirit to share will always be a memory to the PRIDE RECIPE BOX!

Below are from Carol's personal recipe box that represent her good taste and creativity in the kitchen!

### BREAKFAST COOKIES

#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 3 cups corn flakes crushed or any cereal ( 3 cups = 1 cup crushed)

#### Directions:

1. whisk together:
- 2 cups flour
- 1 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 cup crushed cereal
- 1/2 cup oatmeal (quick cookies)

#### \*\* OPTIONAL CHOICES ...

- ADD...chocolate chips, NUTS = walnuts, pecans
2. Form into 1" balls & flatten a little with fingers.
  3. Place on parchment lined cookie sheet.
  4. Bake 325° 12 to 16 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes.

### PECAN PRALINE COOKIES

#### Ingredients:

- 1 1/4 cup of pecans
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 2 tsp. cornstarch
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 2 sticks of melted butter - cooled slightly
- 1 cup brown sugar - dark
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tbsp. vanilla

#### Directions:

1. Toast pecans, 3 - 5 minutes - cool & chop.
2. In a Med. bowl - whisk dry ingredients.
3. In a large bowl - beat butter and sugars until light & fluffy. Add egg & vanilla. Blend well.
4. With mixer on low blend in flour.
5. Fold in pecans & refrigerate for 2 hrs. or up to 2 days.
6. Preheat oven to 350°.
7. Line cookie sheet with parchment & 1 heaping tsp. of dough to form cookie.
8. Bake 9 - 11 mins. until edges are brown.
9. Cool on rack.

### LEMON ICE

#### Ingredients:

- 2 cups of boiling water
- 1 cup light Karo syrup
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp. grated lemon rind

#### Directions:

1. Boil water, Karo syrup & sugar together in non-aluminum pan for 5 mins.
2. Remove from heat.
3. Let sit 2 hours.
4. Strain out rind. Add lemon juice. Stir & freeze in ice cube trays overnight.
5. In a blender, place cubes & blend until white & foamy.
7. Put foamy liquid in a container & store in freezer.

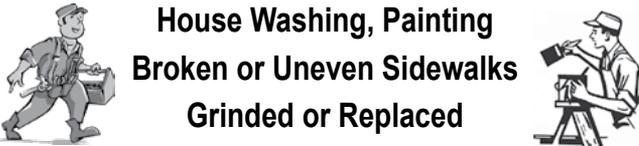
#### Welcome to 2026...!

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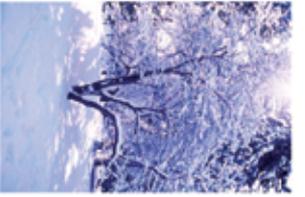
# JANUARY 2026 CALENDAR EACH WEEK DAY OF THE MONTH AS LISTED

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
9:30-11:00 Ticket Sales		9:30-11:30 Acrylic Paint Class	11:00 Chair/Mat Yoga	
9:30-11:30 Watercolor class	1 & 7 cards/Mah jongg	1:00 Men's Indoor Shuffleboard	1:00 Women's Indoor Shuffleboard	
1:00 Crochet, Knitting & Needlework	1:00 Indoor Slings Shuffleboard	1 & 7 cards	1:00 Crochet, Knitting & Needlework	
1:00 cards/Mah jongg				
7:00 LRC – 1/20	7:00 Rummy Cube			
<b>GARBAGE</b>	<b>RECYCLE</b>	<b>1/14 &amp; 1/28</b>		

**SNOW COMPLAINTS: Call TURFMASTERS  
AT: 732-349-0444 Leave a MSG on the machine.  
EMERGENCY SNOW COMPLAINTS PLEASE  
CALL: Tom Behrens – 718-757-4429**

**ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITY OFFICE:**  
Hours: 8:00 – 1:30 p.m.  
Administration Office Phone: 732-920-9099

2:00 PM MOVIE MATTINEE	9:00 AM Bd of Trustees Mtg 3:00 PM Website	10:00 AM Women's Club Exec Bd	10:00 AM Community Awareness 1:00 PM Clubhouse	10:00 AM Lions Pride Review		
18	19	20 11:00 AM Welcoming 7:00 PM Finance & Ins	21 12:00 PM Women's Club	22	23 5:30 PM WGA BINGO	24
25 2:00 PM MOVIE MATTINEE	26 9:00 AM Bd of Trustees-Std Comm	27 3:30 PM Social 6:30 PM Book-a-holics	28 1:00 PM Book Club	29	30	31
		GARBAGE	RECYCLE			



# January 2026

## Monthly Planner



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 OFFICE CLOSED	2	3
4	5 9:00 AM Bd of Trustees- Ratification of 2026 officers 10:30 AM Buildings & Grnds	6 9:00 AM Architectural	7 9:00 AM Men's Club Exec Bd	8 9:30 AM Travel 10:15 AM Combined Activities 11:30 AM Library	9	10
11	12	13 GARBAGE	14	15	16	17

Dec 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Feb 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

The office maintains a list of contractors that have been recommended by residents for various types of work. Your comments and recommendations are helpful for future use by other residents. The Association accepts no responsibility for contractors hired.

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:** To report a DEATH call Rose Szpara – 732-920-7898 or Barbara Garrabrant – 732-701-3260. To report an ILLNESS/HOSPITALIZATION call: Joyce Speziale – 732-701-3260. Please do not call the office.

**BRICK SENIOR SHUTTLE:** Provides no cost transportation Mon-Fri, 8 am-3 pm. Rides are first come, first served basis. A brief registration is required prior to using service. To schedule transportation call: 732-920-8686 between 9am & 11 am.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

*Lee Bruziatis*

Your new Social Committee will get to work in January to finalize plans for 2026. Please see the flyer elsewhere in this issue for what they have tentatively scheduled.

A Wine Tasting event on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 15 is planned, but due to the early deadline for this issue of the Pride (Nov. 30), details have not yet been finalized. Please listen to the robocalls and keep an eye on the website and social bulletin board in January for more information.

## WOMEN'S CLUB

*Deb Rodgers*

Hi everyone,

Happy New Year!!! We hope to have some fun and informative activities this year.

The Holiday Luncheon was a great success and everyone had a great time. The venue was very festive and as always, accommodating.

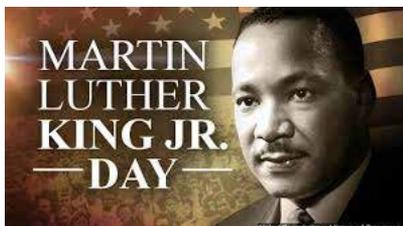
At our January 21st meeting, we will be having the "WHAT YOU GOT FOR CHRISTMAS THAT YOU DIDN'T WANT" auction and Ugly Sweater Contest. To participate, you will need to bring something to auction off. You don't have anything to auction off? Buy a \$5-\$10 gift or gift card. Bring small bills to bid with. If this is your first time coming to the Women's Club, please call Linda Parlock so she has a correct count of how much food is needed.

There are bins in the lobby closet in the Clubhouse. If you have clothes that you want to donate, please use the bins. They are available all year long. Once they are both filled, Reverend Steve is contacted and he comes to pick them up. He is always grateful for the generosity of our residents.

We are always looking for a speaker or fun activity to do at our meetings. Feel free to let myself or the Women's Club Executive Board members know if you have any ideas.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

May the New Year bring you peace and happiness. Until next month, stay warm and safe.



## MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS

For those residents who previously paid their monthly maintenance fee in advance by predating their checks, please be advised that option will no longer be made available. You can submit one check in the entire amount for the year, or send in your monthly payment each month when due. The same policy is in effect for those residents who leave for Florida in the winter.

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## MY JOURNEY TO AND THROUGH RETIREMENT

Deborah L. Krause/February, 2021

My journey to retirement has had many twists and turns; and after finally retiring in January of 2020, the advent of the COVID-19 Crisis has made it an interesting journey. Several years ago I knew that my time to close the classroom door for the last time was on the horizon. After thirty seven years in education I finally found the courage to take a deep breath, walk out of the school door and into a new world of possibilities. As a student, I was one who tested the teachers' patience and I never liked school. Still to this day I am suspicious of any new teacher who exclaims, "I love school, it is just so much fun." I usually manage to smile and say something like, "learning is fun and when schooling is done well it is the most challenging and rewarding work you'll ever do". What I am trying to say is I didn't choose a career in education, it chose me. I always liked challenges, so early on I knew that my purpose was to never let another student be as bored as I was in the classroom. In reality that was an impossible goal but fortunately what I lack in wisdom I make up for in tenacity. Still the question I kept coming back to was why would I choose to retire if I am still so engaged in teaching and

learning? I thought people decided to retire because they were tired of work but I wasn't tired or so I thought. What I really wanted was to learn something new. I realized that retirement is a journey not a destination, it is a transition to a new life and you are allowed to bring all the wisdom and experience you gained with you. Recognizing I could take my experience and knowledge of what works in the classroom with me to use outside of schools and in another way was exciting. My husband served as a great example, three years before he had retired from pastoral ministry and became a self-employed travel agent. This has given us opportunity to travel to many different places and to lead groups on holy land tours. Just as my second act was starting, COVID-19 made its way to our country. Overnight there was great fear and this time of uncertainty hit most Americans hard. We were part of a global pandemic and everyone was trying to figure out what to do next. Lives and livelihoods were being lost, while schools closed and teachers moved quickly into the world of remote teaching.

Prior to my retirement I had started teaching remotely in a graduate program and enjoyed working with the next generation of educators. I loved being able to continue doing what I enjoyed, while learning a whole new way of teaching. I continued to read about schools and wondered how could we keep already disadvantaged students from falling farther behind. The pandemic and the transition to remote learning laid bare the inequities of access to technology that persist for disadvantaged students and I still care deeply about this issue.

During this season of uncertainty, I am choosing joy; remembering that the only thing I can control in any situation is my reaction. Therefore each day I find joy in what I am doing during this season of uncertainty. Recently I decided to try watercolors and am finding art to be a sanctuary. The outside world disappears as I enter into the flow of creating. As Winston Churchill once said, "Happy are the painters, for they shall not be lonely. Light and color, peace and hope, will keep them company to the end of the day." I encourage you to find sanctuary by revisiting either a forgotten interest or starting something new. If you do take advantage of this opportunity, please remember to give yourself some space and grace while learning new routines and making plans for the future. Now with no regrets, I can open the door (after sanitizing the doorknob and putting on my mask) excited about my new possibilities.

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## PRIORITY FOR DRIVEWAY SNOW REMOVAL

As we approach another winter season, we again find it necessary to clarify who qualifies for the Priority Snow Removal list for 2025-2026 winter season. **A new request is required every season.**

For those who qualify, please submit your request to assure that you will be placed on the priority list. To qualify, a resident must require regular life-sustaining medical treatment, such as chemotherapy, radiation or dialysis in or outside the home.

A "heart condition" does not qualify. Your request must be accompanied by a **physician script/note** which specifies that life-sustaining treatment for any of the conditions outlined above is necessary. Hand written notes are unacceptable. All information will be kept by the administrator and will be confidential.

For convenience purposes, your doctor may fax this information to our office. Our fax number is 732-920-2650. Please be assured this information will be kept strictly confidential. Placement on the Priority Snow List cannot be accomplished until we receive the necessary documentation from your physician.

Your need to go to work does not qualify for priority snow removal. For this purpose, we suggest you make advance arrangements with a private contractor for snow removal.

The township will cooperate by plowing our roads so that our contractor can begin work. Of course, the town will continue to respond to any serious problems during storms.

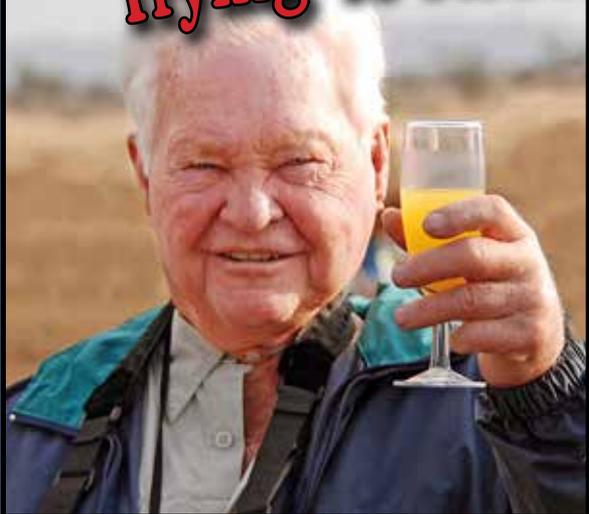
### ALWAYS CALL 911 FOR ANY MEDICAL EMERGENCY

Please be sure to keep on hand extra supplies of medications and food so that you do not need to leave the house during or immediately after a snowstorm. The weather predications generally provide ample warning time for making preparations.

Please respond as soon as possible as the winter season will be here soon.



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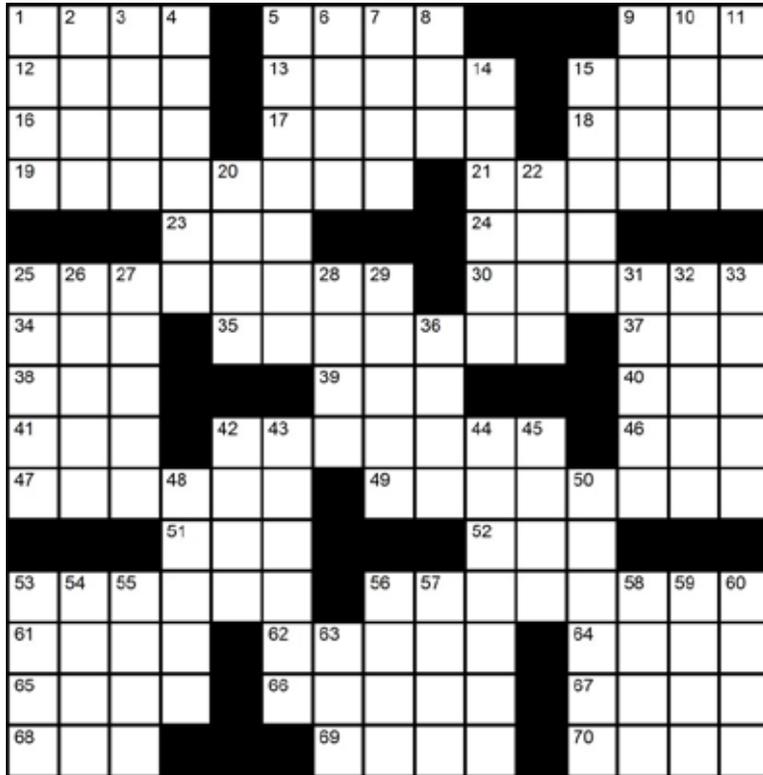
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# CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## ACROSS

- 1 In
- 5 Composer Schifrin
- 9 “--- for igloo”
- 12 “If He Walked Into My Life” musical
- 13 --- Gonzalez, focus of prominent asylum case
- 15 White matter up top
- 16 Seed cover
- 17 Alpine river
- 18 Small dam
- 19 Deep-six
- 21 Step tops
- 23 Shiba ---, barks in Japan
- 24 “Scots Wha --- “ (Burns poem)
- 25 Phantom
- 30 N Y C mayor, once
- 34 A L West team, on scoreboards
- 35 Miss Iowa 2013 lacked part of this
- 37 Baseball line score letters
- 38 Riot conclusion?
- 39 Down’s opposite: Abbr.
- 40 Plural ending
- 41 Lupus: Abbr.
- 42 Fit
- 46 New World international org.
- 47 Cab Calloway catchphrase
- 49 Los Angeles suburb
- 51 Albanian money
- 52 Bard’s nightfall
- 53 Put on

- 56 Common landscape in “Seven Pillars of Wisdom”
- 61 Didn’t have enough
- 62 Itinerary
- 64 Cottontail’s tail
- 65 Back of the neck
- 66 Monica ---, ace player
- 67 Arm bone
- 68 Corp. income before the I R S takes its cut
- 69 Mouth off
- 70 Gone

## DOWN

- 1 Key of Mozart’s “Jupiter” Symphony: Abbr.
- 2 Beaten by a tortoise
- 3 Tag shout
- 4 A Boston cager
- 5 R&R
- 6 Besides
- 7 Bank claim
- 8 Ben-Hur was chained to one
- 9 Intestine parts
- 10 Footnote abbr.
- 11 Respiratory disease
- 14 Infernal
- 15 Open seven days ---
- 20 Like flights from the U S A to Eur., e.g.
- 22 Polar explorer Byrd was one
- 25 Punch
- 26 Wolfgang ---, Austrian-American physicist
- 27 Alleviated
- 28 A long way off
- 29 Maj.’s superior
- 31 Betelgeuse’s constellation
- 32 Con
- 33 “Steppenwolf” author
- 36 Heavenly strings, in Sorrento
- 42 “Don’t forget about me!”
- 43 Small betters
- 44 Most transparent
- 45 Brought an action
- 48 Avoid
- 50 Finishes
- 53 Top-of-the-line
- 54 Q-Tip
- 55 Short month in Autumn
- 56 Genus of a booby
- 57 Can be changed into two fives
- 58 Arthur Ashe’s alma mater
- 59 Women in habits
- 60 French state
- 63 Above, the old way

**Answers on page 31**

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# JANUARY

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J R C S N M Z P W D X L V L L  
O U U Y U Q L I O M F A E L N  
B F A M I L Y N I A M S M B M  
Z T O Z Q S O E B H S Y M E Z  
Y B I N P E E S E I E H J L W  
J R D W R H H S N Y Q A T L Y  
Z O A M R S K G E R E S L S D  
D Y C U C I S A T S I L Z T G  
T S X R N W R G C F U E T C H  
L H M H F A E R Z O L H B S A  
T I L R O P J M G D L L Y O D  
S E I R O M E M Y Y Y S A J B

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BELLS  
MEMORIES

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# Recipe CORNER



## Buffalo Chicken Dip

*By The Good Housekeeping Test Kitchen*

### Ingredients

- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese, at room temp
- 1/2 c. sour cream
- 2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1/3 c. Buffalo hot sauce (we used Frank's RedHot)
- 3 c. finely shredded white-meat rotisserie chicken
- 8 oz. Monterey Jack cheese, coarsely grated
- 2 scallions, finely chopped
- 2 oz blue cheese, crumbled
- Potato chips and celery sticks, for serving

### Directions

#### Step 1

Heat oven to 425°F. In large bowl, whisk together cream cheese, sour cream, lemon juice, and hot sauce. Fold in chicken, Monterey Jack, and scallions.

#### Step 2

Transfer mixture to 2 shallow 2-cup baking dishes, top with blue cheese, and bake until golden brown, 12 to 15 minutes. Serve with potato chips and celery sticks.



## Spicy Beef Empanadas

*By Pillsbury Kitchens Updated*

### Ingredients

- 3/4 lb 85% ground beef
- 1 cup diced white onion
- 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 can (16.3 oz) refrigerated Pillsbury™ Grands!™ Flaky Layers Original Biscuits (8 Count)
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese (4 oz)

### Steps

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Heat 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat; add beef, onion, pepper flakes and 1/2 teaspoon salt, stirring to break up meat. Cook 5 to 6 minutes or until beef is no longer pink. Remove from heat; drain and return to pan. Stir in vinegar and cilantro.
2. Separate dough into 8 biscuits. Press or roll each to form 6-inch round. Scoop 1/4 cup beef mixture on center of each round; top each with 2 tablespoons cheese.
3. Fold each in half; gently stretching dough over filling, pressing seal.
4. Using fork, press seams to seal. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 24 to 26 minutes or until golden brown.

## Red Velvet Cake Mix Cookies

*By Micah A Leal*

Active Time: 10 mins Total Time: 45 mins Yield: 24 cookies

### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 (15.25 oz.) box of red velvet cake mix
- 3/4 cup white chocolate chips



### Directions

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a medium-sized bowl, whisk together oil, salt, and eggs until well combined. Add the cake mix and mix until fully combined, about 2 minutes. Fold in the white chocolate chips. Refrigerate for 20 minutes.

Line 2 rimmed baking sheets with parchment paper. Portion out heaping tablespoons of dough and roll them in your hands to form round balls. Place each ball about 2 inches apart on the baking sheet (Note: the cookies will spread out considerably, so it's important to leave plenty of space).

Bake in preheated oven for 10-12 minutes, just until the edges begin to brown slightly. Allow the cookies to cool for 10 minutes on the baking sheet before removing them to a wire rack to finish cooling.

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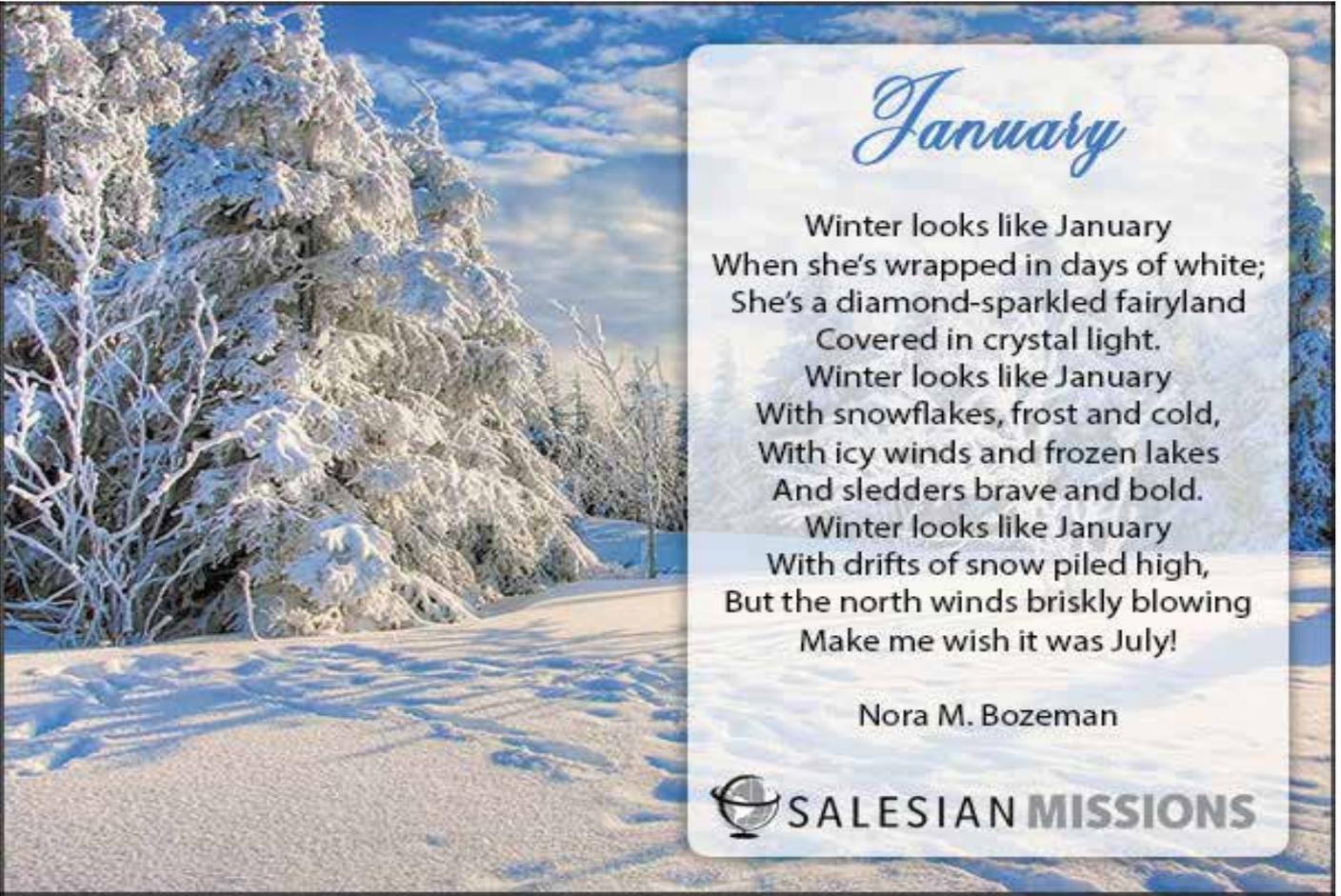
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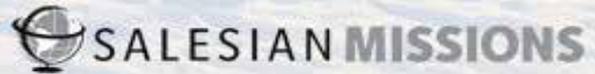
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# January

Winter looks like January  
 When she's wrapped in days of white;  
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 Winter looks like January  
 With snowflakes, frost and cold,  
 With icy winds and frozen lakes  
 And sledders brave and bold.  
 Winter looks like January  
 With drifts of snow piled high,  
 But the north winds briskly blowing  
 Make me wish it was July!

Nora M. Bozeman



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12	M	A	M	E	13	E	L	I	A	N	14	A	L	B	A						
16	A	R	I	L	17	I	S	E	R	E	18	W	E	I	R						
19	J	E	T	T	20	I	S	O	N	21	T	22	R	E	A	D	S				
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25	S	26	P	27	E	C	T	R	A	L	28	E	D	K	31	32	33				
34	L	A	A		35	L	E	F	T	36	A	R	M	37	R	H	E				
38	O	U	S		39	A	C	R						40	I	E	S				
41	S	L	E		42	A	P	R	O	P	O	44	S	45	O	A	S				
47	H	I	D	48	E	H	I			49	L	A	P	U	50	E	N	T	E		
					51	L	E	K						52	E	E	N				
53	A	54	S	55	S	U	M	E		56	S	57	A	N	D	58	D	U	59	N	60
61	O	W	E	D		62	R	O	U	T	E		64	S	C	U	T				
65	N	A	P	E		66	S	E	L	E	S		67	U	L	N	A				
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