



# Knollcrest News

Knollcrest  
Family Community

August 2014



## Greetings!

Greetings! Spring took its time arriving this year. Flowers and trees lagged behind in their colorful show due to the uncooperative weather. The end of March brought snow and freezing rain and in fact, the last bit of ice didn't melt on the lake until April first!

Finally the sun stayed out, the days turned warm and we launched into a beautiful summer. The beach was ready and waiting for residents on Memorial Day and the weather cooperated. The marina is in full swing with lots of boating activity and residents enjoying the lake and sunshine. Even the 4th of July weekend, which started with a very rainy Friday, turned around just in time for all the celebrations.

One resident commented "our weekend neighbors have had almost perfect weather for every weekend they have come up." Here's hoping that the trend lasts the rest of the summer!

**The Knollcrest News strives to keep the community informed of all the happenings in Knollcrest. In doing so, we hope to build and foster the spirit of community that has been the hallmark of Knollcrest for the past 78 years**



## Candlewood Lake Authority

The Candlewood Lake Authority is responsible for the protection and safety of the lake. The CLA was formed in 1972. It is represented by the 5 towns which border the lake and is made up of several full time staff as well as a number of marine patrol officers. It is served by a board of 15 volunteer delegates. Each of the 5 towns that surround the lake appoints 3 delegates to serve the board of the CLA.

Public safety is the ultimate function of the CLA's marine patrol. They place over 75 hazard, speed and navigation buoys on the lake. They perform regular boating safety inspections on the water with both their patrol boats as well as their two Jet Ski patrols. If you have ever attended the fireworks on the lake you will have seen the CLA in full force, checking each boat for life jackets, lights and horns.

In the beginning, its primary function was providing safety and administration support for the marine patrol. In the early 1980's local communities noticed a decline in the lake's water quality due to the rise of pollutants, milfoil and algae blooms. Since

**Thank you to the contributors from our Knollcrest Community who help make this newsletter a true Community effort.**

**If you missed an issue, they are available at [KnollcrestNews.org](http://KnollcrestNews.org)**

**Editor: Rosemary Scott**

that time, the CLA has served to protect the ecological assets of Candlewood Lake. Since 1983, CLA has been conducting monthly water- quality monitoring. Poor water quality can affect aquatic life, increase weed growth and impact boating and swimming.

The CLA just conducted a seminar at Candlewood Isle in order to inform lake communities its progress on the zebra mussel and milfoil status and ask the communities for their assistance. They also are host to Project CLEAR, a program originally started by high schoolers to clean up the lake and remove debris.

The Candlewood Lake Authority is a vital source for ongoing enjoyment and protection of our most valuable asset.



## Board of Directors Meeting

At the April 9, 2014 Board meeting, Mark Cronk, along with Water director Steve Plante, informed the Board that one of the six wells that supply water to Knollcrest, collapsed earlier that week. Steve addressed the Board and stated that the well itself is 200 to 250 feet down but they could only reach 40 feet down. They are unable, due to the collapse, to retrieve the relatively new pump. According to Steve and the water contractors, there are three options for the community. One is to abandon the well and run the community on five wells instead of six. The other is to try and break through the collapse to retrieve the pump and the last is to dig a whole new well and purchase a new pump.

Mark Cronk went on to discuss the budget. He and the Treasurer Kathy Cullen presented an increase in the beach budget by \$1,000.00 and increase the marina assessment by \$25.00 (roughly \$800.00). He stated that the snowplowing this winter was over budget due to the snow removal from an unanticipated number of storms.

At the time of the meeting, Mark Cronk stated that the Tax District was currently over its \$107,000.00 budget by about \$3,000.00 dollars.

The President listed several pending projects for the next year including the blowouts for the water system on Crestway and Southview as well as the drainage issue on Eastview Road.

During his presentation to the Board, he said that he intends to bring up the possibility of charging residents for the marina kayak rack usage and for shoreline storage for rowboats. A number was not given at the time. But Mr.Cronk plans on asking the community, and have them vote on it.



## In The News

Knollcrest resident Walter Eppler is a volunteer extraordinaire. Not only does he donate his time to Knollcrest as caretaker to the windmill and head of the Beautification Committee, but he has also donated his time

and talent to the Senior Center and New Fairfield Congregational Church as well.

He has volunteered two days a week at Danbury Hospital for years-greeting everyone he meets with his ever present smile. This hard working unassuming man has also become a generous donor to Danbury Hospital's latest expansion project.

Walter funded the decorative oasis at the new main entrance of the hospital. The oasis is a central green area, a park-like setting with a fountain and seating. Walter recently said "... I love being outdoors and gardening is one of my hobbies. I think the oasis will bring people a lot of peace."

Thank you Walter for all you do.



## **Knollcrest Budget Meeting**

The Budget meeting, held on May 10, lasted much longer than usual. Roughly 40 residents were in attendance at the community room at the New Fairfield senior center.

The meeting started off with a power point presentation by the Secretary of the Board, Ellen Deleo, addressing an opinion piece that was written by former Board president, Betsy Delaney and appeared in the Citizens News that week.

Mark Cronk then presented the budget. When the floor was opened for questions, a homeowner asked that when, according to the expense schedules sent out by the Board's accountant to the residents for normal operating expenses showed spending over \$60,000 dollars for each of the last five years, how the Board could propose an operating budget of only \$57,000 for these same expenditures. Many residents commented and tried to answer the question and a long back and forth discussion ensued between residents. Before the Board president answered the question, a motion was made from the floor to accept the budget as proposed, quickly seconded and President Mark Cronk allowed the vote; the budget was passed with one 'no' vote and two abstentions.

Mark Cronk proceeded to the garbage collection issue. He presented three proposals to the community. After much debate, the topic was tabled and will be addressed again (after more research is conducted) at the Annual meeting in August.

The Board president went on to propose the closing of J. Jarvis Moses circle, due not only to a resident using the space as parking for their home, but also for a new well if needed. After much discussion, no vote was taken and the subject was tabled after the Board president initiated an agreement that allowed only one car to be parked at the circle by the adjacent homeowner.

The next topic was the kayak, canoe and rowboat storage fee. Marina Director Elliott Sears proposed a \$30.00 annual fee for these vessels. Another lively discussion ensued. One point brought up by a resident was whether Knollcrest has the right to impose a fee below the 440 line. A vote was taken and passed to impose the fee. The meeting was adjourned immediately following the vote.



## Speed Limit

Several residents have approached the News to ask their fellow residents and guests to please slow down on our roads. The posted speed limit in Knollcrest is 15 MPH. There are many children in the community during the summer on bikes and scooters and just running through the community. Please remember to drive slowly when you are in the community and stop at the STOP signs on Crestway and Southview.



## Knollcrest Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held on August 9, 2014 at 10 AM at the windmill. The election of the 2014-2015 Board of Directors will take place at that time. The Nominating Committee announced the names on the slate on Friday, July 25th, but has yet to announce who it has put forth for the Officers' and Directors' positions.



## Knollcrest Networks

### Services Offered

Responsible pet sitter / dog walker available.

Call Maggie Scott 203-470-1056

### Volunteers Wanted:

The beautification committee is looking for volunteers to help in the Fall. Any time you can give would be appreciated! Please call Walter Eppler at 203-746-3277 or email the newsletter at [info@knollcrestnews.org](mailto:info@knollcrestnews.org)

### For Rent:

Squantz Fire House second floor. It can be used as a meeting space, banquet hall for graduation parties, Confirmations, wedding receptions, etc. Come and view our recently remodeled hall with new kitchen and

handicapped bathroom.

Reasonable rates available. Please call Steve at 203-746-6285

**Community Service Website:**

The Knollcrest weather cam and data is available 24/7 on [www.k-wx.com](http://www.k-wx.com)

**Contributors Wanted:**

The Knollcrest News is looking for residents who have extensively remodeled their homes. If you have any information or pictures, please let us know. Contact [info@knollcrestnews.org](mailto:info@knollcrestnews.org)

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