



From the Highland Lake Watershed Association - A Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to the Preservation and Protection of Highland Lake and Its Watershed

## Fall/Winter

2021

### President's Message *by Beth Papermaster*

Undeveloped land in the watershed is good for the health of Highland Lake. Trees, shrubs and plants play an incredible role in reducing storm water and removing or filtering nutrients and pollutants that would otherwise end up in our lake.

Trees are not only beautiful, but they help reduce air pollution. Their roots hold the soil, preventing soil erosion. Trees act like enormous sponges absorbing large amounts of storm water before it can run off into the lake. And, best of all, they absorb excess nutrients and contaminants from the soil before they reach Highland Lake.

Over the summer, HLWA and the Winchester Land Trust worked together to purchase a nearly 1.5-acre plot of land very close to the lake. Protecting this densely forested land was of great urgency to us. In just about three weeks' time we raised \$80,000 from 19 extremely generous donors to cover the purchase price and additional closing costs.

The Winchester Land Trust (WLT) is a "private, nonprofit, service organization, directed and managed by its members, whose purpose is to promote, for the benefit of the general public, the preservation of open space and natural resources, principally in, but not limited to, the Town of Winchester."

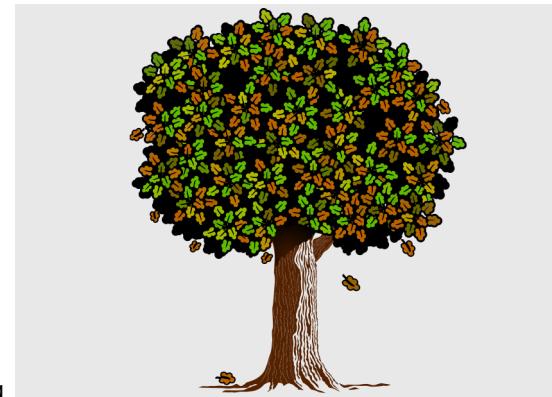
This was not the first time HLWA and WLT worked together to acquire land. In 2007, together we purchased 8 acres on the west side of the lake known as Long Pond Ridge (and as The Tablet). In 2014, we purchased 5 acres, now known as The Stevens Preserve. In addition, HLWA, through our Legacy program, owns, stewards, and thereby protects, 6.33 acres of open, undeveloped land.

HLWA looks forward to working together with WLT to secure and protect other large tracts of land in the watershed. HLWA is exploring creating a restricted fund through the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation that would serve as a secure place for donors to direct funds for land conservation in the Highland Lake watershed. To learn how you can help, please email me at [president@hlwa.org](mailto:president@hlwa.org), or WLT president Jennifer Perga at [jen\\_perga@yahoo.com](mailto:jen_perga@yahoo.com).

Thank you to the following donors (\$500 or greater) who made the purchase of the Carey's Point property possible:

Maria Miele and Ken Albino  
Ellen and Dick Babcock  
Beth and Steve Ballentine  
Lynn Carter and Jay Champagne  
Highland Lake Watershed Association  
Sing Hang Lee and Kee Hung Hau  
Merrill and Mark Mandell  
Donna and Evan MacDermott  
Beth and Dan Papermaster  
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Candy Perez

Cathie Perga  
Jennifer Perga  
Becky and Sam Sciacca  
Debbie and Tony Sandonato  
Clare Stevens  
Gail and Stuart Yaffee  
Annie and Greg Simard  
Kathy Stanbrough



Taking down trees at Highland Lake can sometimes be prohibited, depending on how many trees you want to cut or how close to the lake you are. Before you remove trees or stumps, check with the Town's Inland Wetlands Agent, Michael Stankov, to find out if any work requires a permit. Email Michael at [mstankov@townofwinchester.org](mailto:mstankov@townofwinchester.org).

*See index on page 2*

*Check out our new advertiser on page 16 and all our other wonderful advertisers!*

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## Spotlight on Volunteers – Carol Zacchio

by Jill Ricci

As we've said many times, HLWA is run by volunteers without whom our strive toward keeping our lake healthy, clean and safe would be impossible to do. Thank you so much to all who volunteer for the immeasurably valuable work you have done for our organization and our lake!



This month's volunteer spotlight is to honor a dear friend of the lake's, Carol Zacchio. You will find Carol in her lovely home shared with her husband Tony in the first bay cove. Her dedication to our organization is invaluable and essential to the work we do. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors for many years, she has also served as the Chairman of Finance Committee and the organization's Secretary, as well as performed water quality testing, ran the annual meetings, recognized volunteers, checked in on members and neighbors in need, and nominated award recipients. She is the most organized person you'll ever meet, keeping track of membership, dues, organization documents, meeting minutes, and historical data which are extremely valuable to our mission. She and Tony make all the deposits at the bank and check our PO Box regularly too, such that they are on first-name basis with the tellers downtown! Carol brings immense historical knowledge, ideas, positive energy and a beautiful intensity to all our discussions and meetings. It's hard to come up with adequate words to describe how much her knowledge, dedication and support contributes. In addition to all of her extensive efforts keeping the organization running, you will often find her keeping the road around the lake litter free, as well as the drains cleaned. We all enjoy the beautiful Highland Lake signs welcoming all to the lake, right? Well, it is Carol who does all the planting, weeding and maintenance of the flowers surrounding those signs! Please thank Carol the next time you see her for her extremely generous gift of her time and talents toward keeping our lake clean and for keeping our organization operating so smoothly. She is an invaluable asset to us all! Thank you, Carol!!!

## Condos on the Lake

by Barbara Wilkes



A little over 30 years ago in the late 1980s, a proposal to build 36 condominiums on the west side of Highland Lake came before the land use commissions. The site started at the Holland Beach area and extended south to encompass three or so properties. The Highland Lake community strongly rejected the project, citing runoff into the lake, changing the character of the neighborhood, overcrowding and other issues of environmental concern.

In preparation for the upcoming land use hearings, residents began to gather, strategize and plan for a case against an approval. The group started to fund-raise and accumulated thousands of dollars that would pay for Attorney D. Losee to represent the group. Many people donated money, and various items were sold. Serving trays with four postcards printed on them were produced. "NO CONDOS" buttons, t-shirts, sweatshirts and bumper strips all were sold and circulated for awareness. After months of meetings, the project was soundly rejected by the land use boards. The condo proposal issue led to the creation of the Highland Lake Zone in the Winchester Zoning Regulations.

Today we can thank the following families for the hard work that prevented the condos from being built: MacIntosh, Forrest, Arquette, Wilkes, Barenklau, Stevens, LeManquis, Barnum and others. Most of us who were involved have moved from the lake. It was a time that brought the Highland Lake community together, creating friendships and a true sense of caring.



# It's easy to help out HLWA!



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3. Select "Highland Lake Watershed Association" as your charity
4. Start shopping!

Remember to checkout at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to generate donations for HLWA.

*Tip: Add a bookmark to make it easier to shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).*

How to use AmazonSmile using the Amazon app on your mobile phone:

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3. Tap on Settings and then select "AmazonSmile"
4. Select "Highland Lake Watershed Association" as your charity and then follow the on-screen instructions to turn ON AmazonSmile in the mobile app
5. Once AmazonSmile has been activated in your app, future eligible app purchases will generate a donation for HLWA



HLWA has received \$225 from AmazonSmile to date. Help us triple this number!!

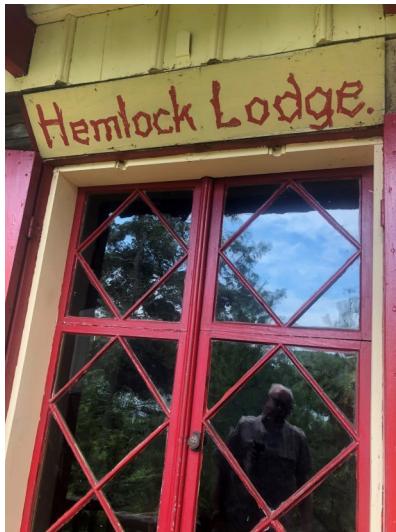
Start your holiday shopping today with AmazonSmile and help protect our lake all at the same time.

## The Legacy of the Traubs on Highland Lake, a.k.a. "The Compound"

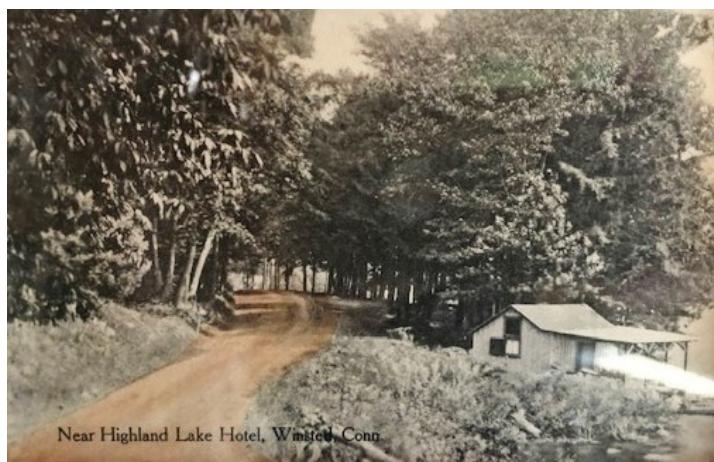
by Jeanne Marchand

For years I had heard about "The Compound" on Highland Lake and often wondered who lived there.

I finally had the opportunity to meet the Traub family who have been on Highland Lake for 113 years. I talked with Richard (Dick) and his wife Barbara, who told me about their family's legacy on the lake. It was fascinating to hear their stories and see some of the old photographs in their house. He even took me for a tour across the street to the original structure and cottages, which he said the Highland Lake residents often refer to as "The Compound."



It all began when his grandfather moved to Highland Lake in 1908. He used to take the train from the Bronx, New York to Winsted, get on a wagon to get to the north end of the lake road, then travel by boat to their property at the south end. His father built a cottage on each side of the original house as the family grew. He told us about a tent they slept in on a platform. They eventually moved the platform across the street to build another cottage on top of the hill, which is referred to as the "the bunk house."



Growing up, Dick said most of the homes on the lake belonged to New Yorkers who only came to the lake for the summer. Their cottages weren't insulated, so they had to leave in the fall.

When Dick was in his teens, he used to play baseball in the center of the racetrack that was located near Sucker Brook. Back then, there were two roller skating rinks, one at the boat launch

(Woodland Park) and the other at Highland Park/Electric Park located in third bay. There was a dance club on the island (a.k.a. Walls Island), and there was a boat that would transport people around the lake to get there. The roller skating rink in third bay eventually burned down. The other was sold to the State of Connecticut.

Dick loved sailing on the lake. He was a member of the Highland Lake Sailing Club. He told me that every Sunday, third bay didn't allow any boats from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. so they could sail. There were contests all summer long, and ribbons were handed out on Labor Day weekend followed by a picnic at Platt Hill State Park. Dick showed me a bag of all of his ribbons he had won.



He met his wife Barbara and had seven children and now 20+ grandchildren. They have lived on Highland Lake since 1959. She told me stories of the Highland Lake Bridge Club and of going to Bruno's Market in the morning and waiting in line for the best cinnamon buns. Bruno's was located across the street from Resha Beach and was known for having the best butcher in town. She remembers when the windmill on Wheeler's Point was operating.



*A Golden Anniversary*

When Dick talked about sailing, his eyes lit up. I loved hearing how the sailing club traveled to different locations and raced against other sailing clubs like West Hill and Bantam Lake. He said he never missed a weekend except for one during the World War II.



He showed me photos of the original house that had burned down. The house used to belong to a neighbor that moved to Florida and the Traubs purchased the property. He gave me a tour of their boathouse next door that was transformed into a sitting area.

I loved seeing the photos of his great-grandfather and of the boat that used to be parked in the old boathouse, which is now a sitting area.

I met some of his family who were there and can't imagine how busy that house must be when they are all gathered together. The Traubs' legacy is carried on with the future generation of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Hopefully they will continue their family legacy at "The Compound."



## Boat Parade 2021

Thanks to all who made this year's boat parade on July 31 such a great success!! Once again, the annual Highland Lake Boat Parade enjoyed a positive evening of merriment and some good old-fashioned fun as more than 30 boats (!!!) participated in the longstanding event. This year the boats paraded counterclockwise (the direction alternates each year), and we were fortunate to have a beautiful evening of weather to enjoy the parade.

It was a fabulous evening and so many of you came out to participate in and/or support it. We were all delighted by the enthusiasm, originality and creativity of the boat parade participants as well as the excitement generated by the spectators along the shores. We give a round of applause to the clever folks who decorated their crafts in creative ways to try to earn admiration and attention. And we equally applaud the landlubbers who watched the parade cruise by. Your noisemakers, cheering, waves and flags all added to the jollity, and we appreciated your passion!

Our sincere thanks to the marine police boat and Sergeant Dan who provided the escort for us this year. It's not too early to be planning your theme and decorations for next year's boat parade, whether on land or by boat. Please plan to join in the fun next summer!



Email: [hlwa@hlwa.org](mailto:hlwa@hlwa.org)

Website: [www.hlwa.org](http://www.hlwa.org)

Facebook: Highland Lake Watershed Association

Instagram: [hlwainsta](#)

## The Eaglet

by Beth Ballentine

Our house sits down a long dirt road. We're nestled tightly on three sides by verdant woods, but our backyard opens to a wide expanse of lake and sky. We're accustomed to sharing



this idyllic spot with wildlife. Bunnies hop across our lawn. A pair of fat raccoons chose our deck as the perfect spot for mating. Two sleek foxes filled a den under our shed with sweet, little pups. Fawns behead my flowers and nibble my hosta down to the quick. A mama bear brings her cubs to partake in our trash if I put it out too long before it's picked up. We can even count among our visitors a moose sporting a full rack of antlers.

Then one spring, the bald eagles came.

The pair set up shop in the woods on the other side of our small bay, about 200 yards across from our house. Our lake community was captivated as we watched them soar and hunt every day around the bay. After all, how many people in the world could boast of eagles flying by their windows and perching in their backyard trees? How many have the opportunity to witness firsthand the power of these great birds, swooping down on prey with talons outstretched, hitting the water and emerging in a single motion with a fish thrashing in its grasp?

To our delight, the pair reappeared the next year, and again this spring. Bald eagles mate for life, and pairs typically return to the same nesting ground, so there was no doubt these were our same old friends.

Our eagles were mainly quiet, but sometimes when the pair was split up, they would call to one another. The call of a bald eagle is a powerful cry, clearly from a large, mighty bird. Shortly after we'd hear them, we'd typically see the two flying together overhead.

But this year, in late spring, it got noisier. We'd begun to hear more chatter from the direction of their nesting ground, and our trained ears could distinguish a higher pitched cry. Now, when the pair was flying above the bay, another bird was calling from across the lake.

There was a third.

The nest was concealed in the thick woods, but the eaglet made its presence known to all within earshot. I didn't mind the frequent ruckus, because we were sure to be alerted whenever the adults were soaring about. My husband Steve and I sleep under an open window, and I grew accustomed to waking each morning to their back-and-forth calls. I imagined the mama consoling her baby from a nearby tree, "I'm just out hunting, I'll be back soon."

Then one day in midsummer there were not just two grand birds in the sky above the bay, but another slightly smaller bird without

the distinctive white head. Their fledgling had taken tentative flight.

I learned several things about young bald eagles: biologists estimate only 50% reach the fledgling stage, and only 40% survive their first flight. They don't acquire the characteristic white-headed plumage until they mature, four or five years after their first summer. Only one in ten eagles make it that far.

We watched our eaglet take daily flying lessons, with one of the adults always soaring close by. Hunting was still left to mom and dad, with the juvenile calling impatiently from its nest.

Over the summer, my grown daughter sent us a video about being happy. The video suggested writing down a happy moment each day to help keep focused on the positive. I liked the idea, and one of the first 'happy moments' I recorded was waking to the sound of eagles pealing to one another. I never grew tired of that daily wake-up call.

Labor Day came and went, and most of the people on the lake went back to work and school. The wildlife and I had the bay to ourselves.

As the warm days drew to a close, I tried to get out on the water as much as I could. One brilliant afternoon I took my paddleboard out for a quiet, solitary ride. A piercing sun glittered off the lake but the air was cool and comfortable.

As I rounded a bend in the lake and entered the next bay, there sat the juvenile eagle, perched on a rock jutting just a dozen feet from me. The fledgling was as huge as its parents now, but still mottled gray and white, blending with the rock upon which it sat. At close range, the distinctive hooked beak and bright yellow talons were even more impressive than I'd imagined. Its head remained in motionless profile, but I saw its eye darting warily as I approached. I steered away to give it a wide berth and deter it from flying off. There were no adult eagles in sight. Our eyes remained locked as I continued in a slow, steady pace past it.

Finally, it rose up and extended its majestic wings, setting off from the rock. It coursed low along the water for some distance. Its body was a yardstick long, its wingspan easily six feet. The whoosh of wings against air was audible in the quiet afternoon.

My happy moment of the day.

A few evenings later I got together with my adult son. I told him how much I enjoyed writing down my daily happy moments. "It serves as a kind of diary," I said. "Someday when I read it back, the things that were going on in my life will be obvious by the things I was happy about."

My son disagreed. "It's not a true diary if you only write down the happy stuff." I conceded that truth, but told him it wasn't important to me to remember the bad things.

The next morning I sat by our large dining room windows, working on my laptop. Often I'll write outside on the deck if the day is fair, but the morning was too breezy. Intent on my work, I barely

looked up when I heard particularly loud and insistent eagle peals. I noticed one of the adult eagles circling close to the water, but this had become a common sight for me. Unfazed, I went back to work.

It was a few minutes later when I realized the raucous cries had not let up. I gazed out the window again. Both adults were making quick, tight circles low to the water. This unusual dance was enough to call me to attention. "What a show they're putting on!" I thought. Maybe I could catch it on video. I grabbed my cell phone and went out on the deck.

When I got outside my heart lurched. There was something bobbing in the water where the eagles were circling. Something big. A wing appeared to be flapping straight into the air.

I called Steve with the phone I was holding.

"I think the baby is hurt. I think it's drowning. I'm going out there on the boat."

It caught me by surprise when my husband, my bird and nature lover said, "No. There's nothing you can do. You can't get between the eagles and their young." Instead, he told me to get binoculars for a better look.

The form in the water was no longer visible. I ran for the binoculars, but when I got back outside the adult eagles were high in the air, flying off. I scanned the water but there wasn't a ripple. There wasn't a sound.

I stood there stunned for some time.

Had I seen what I thought I'd seen? Had I been the only human to witness it?

I played the event back in my head over and over for the rest of the day. At the time, it hadn't registered that the cries were coming from the eagles circling the water, instead of from the nest. I knew hunting eagles were silent. How had I not noticed that, a detail now so eerily significant? Though if I had, what difference would it have made?

That night at dinner I told Steve I still wasn't convinced of what I'd seen. "If I hear calling from the nest in the morning, I'll know the juvenile is okay."

Steve lifted his beer to his lips and said nothing.

The next morning I woke to the sweet chirping of sparrows and the gentle lapping of water. I strained to hear more but all was excruciatingly serene and hushed. The day remained bright and beautiful and deadly quiet. Later in the morning one of the mature eagles flew silently by my window.

Two weeks have passed. We've seen the pair of white-headed eagles on the wing, and today we even heard them call to one another as a storm approached. But the mottled young one has been nowhere in the sky.

There is no place in my happy moments for this. So I had to make it a story of its own.

*This article first appeared in Snowy Egret, the oldest continuously published nature journal in the U.S.*

## New Board Members

### Candy Perez

Candy has been a summer resident since she was five years old (and full time since 1993). As her father was an early member of the Highland Lake Association, Candy learned at a young age the importance of protecting the lake. She was on the Highland Lake Watershed Association board of directors in the late 1990s as well as the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.



She currently serves on the Board of Selectmen as Mayor. One of her main areas of interest is keeping our lake a good place to swim with improvements to the drainage system around the lake.

### Greg Kyrytschenko

Greg came to Highland Lake in 2020. As a kid he always drove by Highland Lake, but never had a chance to recognize its beauty until 2020 when he made a short visit with his wife and fell in love with the place. A month later they made the decision to purchase a home in third bay. He has worked in the cybersecurity and technology field for 25+ years. He is an adjunct faculty member teaching technology and cybersecurity courses at Sacred Heart University. In his spare time, Greg is an avid runner, loves the outdoors and spending time around the lake with his family. When not at the lake, he also enjoys coaching his three kids in their respective sports.



### Amy Frankel

She and her husband Glenn live in West Hartford and have three adult children, Jenna, Sharon and Kyle. They bought a house at the lake in 2019 and love it, hoping to make memories at the lake for years to come. Amy has a background in accounting and has actively volunteered in her kids' schools throughout the years. She looks forward to making new connections at the lake and serving on the board.



## Laurel Water Ski Club

by Candy Perez

The Laurel Water Ski Club was established in the 1950s. My father Archie Perez was one of the early members.

The club members skied all summer and then hosted a regional tournament the weekend after Labor Day. At one point, the ski club tournament was recognized as the longest running in the country.

The club also performed in ski shows. The club members created pyramids, skied in costumes, skied off the jump, and performed other tricks.

Club members were always thinking of new challenges. I watched Frank Cargill fly in his kite, some brave people up in the parachute, some skied on a canoe paddle and others a freeboard (a ski with no binding). Skiers used trick skis to perform 360s and, when tempted, would go out on "shoe skis." There were discs made with a turntable on top, a disc with a chair, and a concave disc that put Earl Iffland into a super fast whip on the corner. One of the favorites was the six-foot "Big Disc" taken out during weekend boat traffic. Five to eight men would go out on this disc and see who would be the last man standing on the disc.

It was a great time to grow up on the lake!



## Meditation on Highland Lake

by Annie Simard (*The Yoga Shop*)

Thought I would share today's meditation experience with you:

*When I looked out at the lake this morning, it was as calm as glass. There were no ripples or waves, no sound of pounding on the shoreline rocks. All is calm, here, now. I sat in meditation on a rock that reaches out into the water, a little peninsula, if you will. As I closed my eyes, the calm that had filled them was replaced with my thoughts. You may be saying, "Aren't you suppose to be clearing your thoughts?" It has always been my experience that when I close my eyes, it is as though I shine a light on my thoughts. I have a lot on my mind these days, thoughts of survival, thoughts of depleted energy, thoughts of hope, thoughts of despair. Let's face it, there is so much going on and, quite honestly, there is very little of it that we have any control over. As I sat, my mind turns on and starts to stir things up. I feel myself holding my breath, clenching my hands. The muscles around my neck and shoulders are so tight that they are lifting toward my ears. (Breathe, allow the exhale to show you some ease. Breathe and soften.) Through the intimacy of connecting to my breath, I am able to self-regulate into a calmer space. (Stay with your breath - if all else fails, just stay with your breath.) Soon, I am aware of the warmth of the sun on my face. My breath is soft, deep and deliberate, without having to "control" it. I sit there, feeling the edges of the rock beneath me, not comfortable, yet supported. (Stay, stay and feel the discomfort that is physical now and watch the way you respond to it.) My response is acceptance today. (Deep breath in, deep breath out.) As I open my eyes, two ducks are floating on the water in front of me. (Stay in stillness.) As I watch, they float on top of the water, with what appears to be no effort. Ripples lift and lower them at will; they don't react. They go with the flow. Then one at a time they dive under. I watch with wonder, waiting. Waiting to see what will happen. Then "poof," they pop up, in a completely different spot. They shake themselves off, acclimate and float. There is peace to be found in this observation, the gift of acceptance.*

*You see, the water is never completely calm. Sometimes you can't see or feel the subtle ripples. Other times, the waves may engulf you, and feel as though they have the power to pull you down deep into them. I realized in this moment that I'm not afraid to go under the water. I also love the feeling of floating on the top. It's all the same, just where we are in the moment, and the moment is ever changing. We just keep showing up. Float when the water is calm. Try and stay calm when it is not. Shake ourselves off, adjust to our current reality and move forward with strength and grace. (Just keep moving forward.)*

**Letter Written in 1933**

HLWA donated to the library the letter represented here from someone who lived on Highland Lake to a woman named Mrs. Staff who was renting their cottage.

June 5, 1933

Dear Mrs. Staff:

Returned from the Lake last night where I put the "Last touches" to my part of the fixing up yesterday but my daughter is still "fussing" with new curtains &c. &c.

I have put in a new dock and "Runway" extending it so it will not be necessary to extend it when the water in the lake lowers, scraped the boat outside and inside and repainted it a pleasing brown color, painted the canoe a pleasing green color and also varnished it outside and inside, and fixed some benches that will stay "Fixed" to rest the canoe on.

Ruth has cleaned out the "Rock garden" so that the grounds look more charming than ever.

As to the rent we have talked of the matter and have decided to accept your offer of Twenty (\$20) Dollars per week for the season, rather than go to the trouble to clean and fix up after a two weeks or a month's time, which seems to be the average around here.

You will still have your old neighbors, Mrs Viets and others. By the way I am told ten (10) weeks is considered a "Season" so you will not have to worry over the time limit set last year.

Would like to have you drive up to the Lake and take a "Look see" at the place and perhaps you could make a suggestion as to something you would like to have done.

I go up to the Lake "Week ends" but Ruth will stay till you come up and we will try to have everything ready.

Sincerely yours,

## Photo Contest

by Jeanne Marchand

The 2021 summer photo contest was a huge success! We received more than 35 emails that included more than 85 photos to select from. This was my first time handling the photo contest, and it was extremely difficult to select favorites as each photo was a winner in its own unique way. I loved the photos that expressed the beauty of the lake as well as the photos of the families enjoying the summer festivities on the lake. It was a tough decision, and I hope all the winners enjoy the HLWA cups!

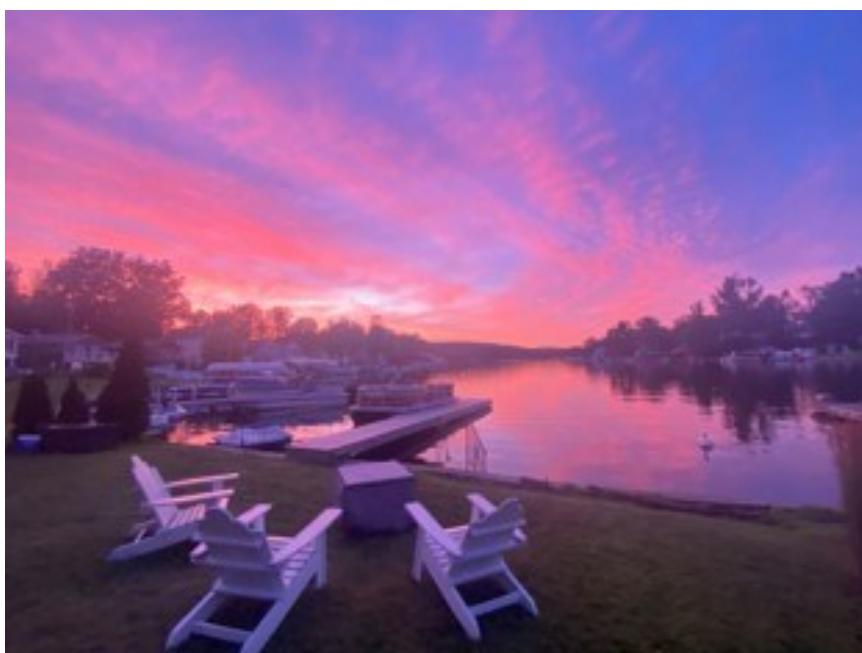
### Winners



**1st Place - Peaceful Morning** submitted by Shawn Meyer



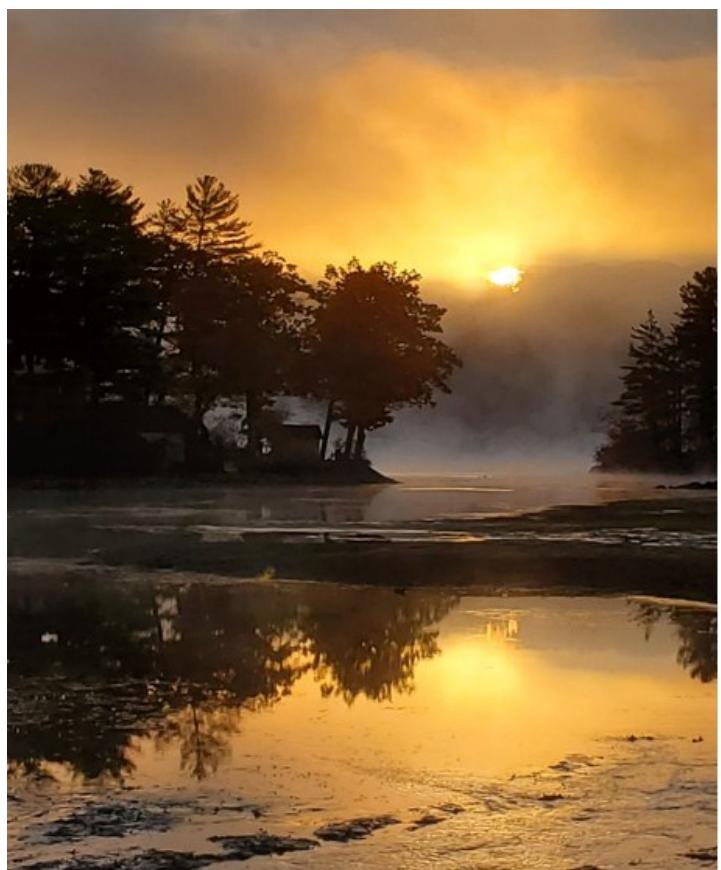
**3rd Place - Fishing Fun** submitted by Clare & Joey Deptula



**2nd Place - Cotton Candy Sky**  
submitted by Brooke Crossman

**Runners-Up**

**1st - Boat Buddies**  
submitted by Lynette & Bob McCarthy



**3rd - Good Morning Highland Lake**  
submitted by Marty Lautenschlager



**2nd - Fun on the Runway**  
submitted by Cathie Perga

## Home Sales Jan 1, 2020 - September 24, 2021

Address	List Price	Closed Price
233 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$ 69,900	\$ 55,000
143 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$115,000	\$103,000
601 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$119,900	\$120,000
233 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$122,500	\$122,500
207 Perch Rock Trail	\$139,000	\$125,000
147 Shore Drive	\$155,000	\$125,000
123 Shore Drive	\$150,000	\$150,000
399 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$169,900	\$160,000
159 E. Lake Street	\$169,900	\$170,000
58 E. Lake Street	\$172,900	\$170,000
217 Perch Rock Trail	\$177,900	\$173,000
134 Forest Ave	\$124,000	\$173,500
233 Perch Rock Trail	\$184,900	\$175,500
135 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$189,900	\$177,000
325 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$185,000	\$185,000
130 E. Lake Street	\$195,000	\$190,000
210 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$230,000	\$225,000
722 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$230,000	\$230,000
706 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$249,000	\$235,000
76 E. Lake Street	\$245,000	\$250,000
86 E. Lake Street	\$249,200	\$250,000
707 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$269,900	\$265,000
352 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$250,000	\$265,000
109 W. Wakefield Blvd, #1	\$299,000	\$265,000
182 Shore Drive	\$300,000	\$272,000
548 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$279,900	\$275,000
504 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$375,000	\$315,000
180 E. Lake Street	\$329,900	\$329,000
109 W. Wakefield Blvd #2	\$349,000	\$350,000
67 E. Lake Street #R	\$359,400	\$357,000
804 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$399,900	\$360,000
520 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$399,900	\$375,000
129 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$415,000	\$400,000
133 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$449,000	\$407,500
340 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$424,000	\$410,000
212 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$449,900	\$430,000
601 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$499,000	\$459,250
842 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$474,000	\$471,900
39 E. Lake Street	\$499,000	\$495,000
848 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$524,900	\$500,000
87 E. Lake Street	\$565,000	\$510,000
878 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$565,000	\$512,500
210 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$549,900	\$535,000
628 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$575,000	\$545,000
522 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$619,900	\$555,000
103 E. Lake Street	\$649,900	\$582,500
714 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$599,000	\$590,000
632 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$725,000	\$600,000
348 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$624,900	\$605,000
543 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$658,000	\$607,000
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272 Perch Rock Trail	\$699,900	\$667,000
204 Perch Rock Trail	\$650,000	\$695,400
210 Perch Rock Trail	\$749,900	\$705,000
348 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$709,000	\$709,000
51 E. Lake Street	\$775,000	\$720,000
62 Lakeview Rd	\$729,000	\$720,000
108 Shore Drive	\$745,000	\$755,000
630 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$879,000	\$830,000
406 E. Wakefield Blvd	\$945,000	\$854,700
536 Wheelers Point	\$874,000	\$874,000
512 W. Wakefield Blvd	\$1,019,999	\$950,000

426 E. Wakefield Blvd      \$1,200,000      \$1,050,000  
 211/212 W. Wakefield Blvd      \$1,350,000      \$1,325,000  
 614 E. Wakefield Blvd      \$1,495,000      \$1,375,000  
 856 W. Wakefield Blvd      \$1,690,000      \$1,690,000

(Thank you to David Sartirana at Northwest CT Realty for compiling this list.)



## Residents Race for a Good Cause at Northwest YMCA's Highland Lake 5k Run

The Northwest YMCA's Grand Prix Race Series continued with its Highland Lake 5K run on Sunday, September 26.

According to Branch Director Caitlin Vinuelas, 75 runners took part in the race.

"All of the proceeds of the race is going to help children and families in the community to have memberships to the Northwest YMCA," Vinuelas said. "There are people out there who wouldn't normally be able to afford a membership unless we covered it through our races. We weren't able to have this last year, but we did have a virtual event where racers could clock their time. But it's much better to have racers all together in one place."

Organization President Greg Brisco said that the race, which has been held for over 25 years, used to be a 10K run.

"But we had feedback from runners who wanted a 5K, which is much simpler to run," Brisco said. "The racecourse runs along the west side of the lake and goes down the road where it is very flat, with no hills. It's beautiful for this time of year. This race meets the mission for The Y where we create healthy activities for people, as well as raising funds for children and families in need."

*Taken from The Winsted Phoenix at [winstedphoenix.org](http://winstedphoenix.org)*

## Discover Litchfield Hills & CTvisit

The State of Connecticut and the regional Council of Government are working hard to make sure that businesses, recreational opportunities, and job openings around the state are widely advertised. Please visit [discoverlitchfieldhills.com](http://discoverlitchfieldhills.com) and [ctvisit.com](http://ctvisit.com) to see what those sites have to offer. If you own a business, be sure that it's listed on both websites! You can contact the Town Manager at [townmanager@townofwinchester.org](mailto:townmanager@townofwinchester.org) for help with signing up.

## Personal Property Declarations

Personal property season is upon us. Do you conduct business in Winchester or perhaps own an unregistered or out of state motor vehicle? If so, you may be required to file a declaration. Please be on the lookout for your 2021 Personal Property Declaration in early October. If you have questions, concerns, or need help completing your declaration, feel free to contact us for help at 860-379-5461. Further documentation, information, and FAQ's are available on the Town's website at <https://www.townofwinchester.org/assessor>.

## Myths and Legends About Highland Lake

by Sam Sciacca

Periodically, recurring myths/legends arise about Highland Lake. See how many of these you know.

### ***Highland Lake is a natural lake.***

This was nasty . . . starting out with a trick question. Highland Lake **was** a natural/glacial lake, but not in its present expanse. The Union Pin Company, once located at the spillway, constructed a dam to raise the natural lake 10 feet above its original height to use water to power their factory. So while there is a natural lake here, the present shoreline/surface height is man-made.

### ***There is a secret tunnel from Crystal Lake to Highland Lake which can be used to control the height of Highland Lake.***

There **is** a tunnel in Crystal Lake, but it is from Rugg Brook Reservoir. This was constructed when the Winsted water supply was changed from Highland Lake to Crystal Lake.

The tunnel ensures enough water flow into Crystal Lake to meet the needs of the town. The height of Highland Lake is controlled by the spillway at the north end of the lake (maximum height) and the gatehouse which can lower the lake . . . as is done every winter.

### ***There is a car from the old trolley line somewhere at the bottom of third bay.***

It's not possible to prove the absence of something, so we can't say it's **not** true. However, there is no historical record of a car

sinking into the lake. Some years ago, a dive contest was held to find the trolley and any other interesting things. This also failed to find the car. If the car were anywhere, it would most likely be somewhere at the south end of Third Bay, as the trolley line used to terminate in that vicinity. And if you do find it, please let us know.

### ***Mr. Highland and his prized piano sank one stormy night, but on quiet evenings, you can still hear him playing from his watery concert hall.***

Hmmm . . . sounds like an attempt at a scary story told around the campfire. This one goes into the "highly questionable" category.

### ***There used to be a horse racing track at Highland Lake.***

This one is true. There are several records of the track and even some remaining physical proof. If you look at a Google Maps satellite view of the Sucker Brook Dam area, you can see the outline of about half of the oval track just to the west of the dam.

### ***There's not really much we can do to help or hurt the lake.***

Definitely **not true**. Although water passes into and out of the lake, other things like fertilizers, beach sand, sediment, lawn clippings, leaves, pesticides, and anything else we inadvertently or inadvertently put into the lake stays there. And while we may not notice the effects from one year to the next, all these things cumulatively contribute to the inevitable death of the lake (i.e., it eventually becomes a bog/wetlands with a greatly reduced aesthetic and recreational value). This is at the heart of the mission of HLWA . . . to ensure the lake remains the recreational gem that it is for as long as possible.



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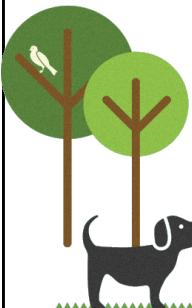


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