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MEDFORD LAKES COLONY NEWS



Vol. 34

January 16, 2026

No. 3

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Medford Lakes Colony Board of Directors would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members: Michael & Jennifer Duffy of Cayuga Trail, Michele & Rob Iverson of Cheyenne Trail, Johannah M. & Megan G. Buckingham of Lenape Trail, Robert & Nancy Snow of Lenape Trail, Leonard Petolicchio of Lenape Trail, Kyle & Allyson Giddings of Mohawk Trail, Anne L. Callahan of Shawnee Trail, and Thomas & Melanie Kerr of Sitting Bull Trail.

COLONY MEETING

On Monday, February 9, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Medford Lakes Colony will be meeting at 7:00 pm in Demby Annex. If you need something included on the agenda, please submit it to the Colony Office no later than Monday, February 2nd. Items for the agenda and questions can be directed to office@mlcolony.org. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend.

2026 HONOR ROLL

The 2026 Honor Roll will be printed in the newsletter in February. To be included in the Honor Roll, you will need to have your dues paid in full by January 31st.

MEMBER DUES RELIEF FUND

Medford Lakes is a snapshot of America, where some neighbors are facing financial hardship due to unemployment, underemployment, family health emergencies, or the like. As much as Colonists are ready to help their neighbors, financial struggles often remain private and go unspoken. A Dues Relief Fund was set-up in 2012 – a temporary, partial dues relief for active Colonists – and has helped many families retain membership when they would not have been able to do so due to financial difficulties. Thank you to those who donated to this fund over the years.

Once again, you are encouraged to:

1.) Give what you can to help a neighbor. Donate through your 2026 Colony invoice or at any time at the Colony Office. Even \$5/household adds up!

2.) Let us know if you would like to be considered for partial dues relief. An application will be available in the Colony Office and on <http://www.medfordlakescolony.org/duesreliefapplication>.

We are just beginning to raise funds, and we want to reach as many neighbors as we can. All funds raised will be distributed in a confidential and fair manner.

Questions can be directed to the Colony Office at office@mlcolony.org or 609-654-7747.

MEDFORD LAKES WOMEN'S CLUB

Brunch, Bubbles & Bingo

JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF LAUGHTER, LUCKY NUMBERS, AND LIGHT BITES!
ENJOY A BUILD-YOUR-OWN MIMOSA BAR THAT'S SURE TO KEEP THE GOOD VIBES FLOWING!

NEW & INTERESTED MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

Sunday, January 25th
11:30am - 1:30pm
Lions Club - 113 Apache Trail

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BOROUGH OR COLONY

Both the Medford Lakes Borough and Colony Offices have outside locked boxes for dropping off payments or necessary communications after hours.

- Please be sure to put items for the Borough – tax payments, sewer payments, pet license registrations, etc. – into the locked box at the entrance of Oaks Hall on Cabin Circle Drive.
- Please put your Medford Lakes Colony dues payments into the locked box on the doorstep to Demby Annex in the back of Vaughan Community House at 79 Tecumseh Trail.

If you are still unsure where to drop off an item and want to avoid any additional late fees if your payment is not at the correct location by the due date, please call 609-654-8898 for the Borough or 609-654-7747 for the Colony.

Designer Bag
Bingo

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26th

Doors @ 6:00 PM

Bingo starts @ 7:00 PM

Vaughan Hall

\$40 IN ADVANCE / \$45 AT THE DOOR

Reserve a Table for 8 People for \$320

Includes Dauber + Nine Bingo Games
 (4 Bingo Cards per Player per Game)


THIS EVENT IS
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All proceeds support the Neeta 8th Grade Dance. Tickets can be purchased by check (Neeta 8th Grade Dance) or Venmo to @NeetaDance26

Please email/text your guests to:
 Marianne at scarianne513@aol.com

All guests must be 21+ to attend.
 Only 180 tickets available.

Renee Fiorelli
 @NeetaDance26



venmo

LAKE LOWERING ANNOUNCEMENT

In accordance with Board action taken in November, the Board petitioned NJ-DEP (via the Borough as spillway owner) for lake-lowering permits as follows:

Lower Aetna – March 6 to 16
 Upper Aetna – March 16 to 25

Although permits have not yet been received, we believe that it is reasonable to plan around these dates. Water-flow in the Aetna system remains strong, and we expect that the State will approve the Borough's application.

As to lake lowering in the Ballinger (West) lake system(s), the Lakes Committee is continuing to monitor their water levels, water table, and watershed conditions, which are not good. Lowering would be harmful to that biosystem because water levels could not be adequately restored in the time periods required by NJ-DEP. Evaluation will continue, but absent any exceptionally heavy snowfalls in the weeks that come, west-side lake front owners should not expect that the Board would approve a lake-lowering in the near future.

LAKER BASKETBALL IS BACK!

1/5/26 was a night to remember at Vaughn Hall. Two Laker girls teams from the 3rd/4th grade division kicked off the basketball season with a hard fought game! Coach Sidors team and Coach Newsome played their hearts out! Lakers Emme Sidor, Olivia Murray, Laine Reilly and Ophelia Setash all had amazing baskets. The future of our girls division is bright! Great work girls.

Our two 5th/6th grade girls teams followed this action with another epic Laker v. Laker back and forth contest. Lakers Nelly Setash, Sara Malinowski, Lauren Scaffidi, Georgia Coverdale, Alyssa Requa and Charlee Schultz lead scoring for Team Requa while Anna and Maeve Koch, Layla Morris and Sophie Stephens all netted points for Team Beachley. The play-by-play of both games was called by the one and only, Lew Kalb.

Best of luck to all 4 Laker Girls teams as they continue on in Pinelands League Play! Tired of watching games on TV? Make sure you stop by Vaughn Hall to check out the basketball action and support our Lakers! The schedule is posted on pinelandsbasketball.net

MLAA NIGHT AT THE SIXERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH • 6:00 PM
 PORTLAND TRAILBLAZERS

Close out the 2026 MLAA basketball season with the ANNUAL MLAA NIGHT AT THE SIXERS!

For players (and their families) who are registered to play MLAA basketball during the 2026 season! Only \$44 PER TICKET!

There is a limited number of tickets available. All the seats are within a single center court mezzanine section.

Email tickets requests and inquiries to:

gregory.lackey10@gmail.com

Payment is by check, or VENMO: @Gregory-lackey-3

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MLAA SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

We look forward to another great season of summer volleyball. We are in need of paid referees for the upcoming season. Please contact rachaelurban@yahoo.com or text (609) 217-0065 if interested. Thank you in advance.

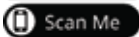
MEDFORD LAKES LIONS 5TH ANNUAL MEATBALL THROWDOWN AND PASTA DINNER

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1ST

REGISTER TODAY for the Medford Lakes Lions Club 5th Annual Meatball Throwdown and Pasta Dinner at Vaughan Hall on Sunday, February 1st from 3pm - 5pm. We are again offering the ability to purchase a table of up to 8 people and to purchase charcuterie plates! There will also be some great basket raffles. Use the links below to check out the details, register as a contestant (limit 10) or sign up to attend the event and join in the fun and enjoy some great food! "We Serve" and we appreciate your support!



To buy a ticket or table to the event, buy a charcuterie plate or to register as a contestant, please visit our webpage:
<https://medfordlakeslions.org/pastadinner>



Questions? please email edverish@verizon.net

MEDFORD LAKES LIONS CLUB COLLEGE AND POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Medford Lakes Lions Club is pleased to offer college and post-secondary education scholarship opportunities to graduating high school students from the Medford Lakes Lions Club service area (08055 and 08088). Our scholarships are based on Community Service performed by the applicant. Applications are available on the Lions Club website: <https://medfordlakeslions.org/scholarship/>. All applications must be received by the close of business on April 15, 2026. If you have questions, drop the Lions an email at info@medfordlakeslions.org.

MEDFORD LAKES GARDEN CLUB MEETING & LUNCHEON

WED., JAN 21, 2026, 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM - Presentation by Bob Williams
 Vaughan Hall, 79 Tecumseh Trail/Medford Lakes, NJ

Bob is a Pine Barrens Conservationist and Member of Pine Creek Forestry LLC. He will focus on the pinelands forests in terms of the history of use and the people who worked in the forests supplying the wood products needed by people. He will get into the growing concerns for uncontrolled wildfires and how ecological forest management could help mitigate that problem.

Additionally, he will discuss the long-term loss of our cedar forests and the need to begin cedar restoration work. He will explain some of the science that is the basis for the need to begin to provide active conservation and stewardship to our forests to ensure it continues to provide all of the amenities we enjoy. Cost: Free

PCC FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Protestant Community Church invites all to its January 17th Fellowship Breakfast at Todd Hall at 8:30 a.m. Its new pastor, Rev. Keith Reed, has brought in many new members. He will talk about his background and experiences before coming to Medford Lakes.

COMMEMORATIVE BENCH DONATION PROGRAM WILSON FIELD

The Medford Lakes Colony is pleased to re-open its Commemorative Bench Donation Program for Wilson Field! Each bench comes with a recognition plaque. The cost for a bench and plaque is \$1,000.00. Forms can be picked up in the Colony Office or emailed to you. Please let office@mlcolony.org know if you are interested. Checks should be made out to Medford Lakes Colony and dropped off at the Colony Office.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION:

Collection of Christmas Trees will start on Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

District Order (4, 1, 2, 3)

Questions? Please contact Public Works at 609-654-9383 – thank you!



2026 FREE RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

The Borough will be hosting a free rabies clinic on Saturday, January 24, 2026, from 9am to 12pm (noon) at the Borough Office. Please bring proof of prior vaccination if you want to receive a three-year certificate.

Dog and/or Cat Licensing starts January 5th with proof of Rabies Certification through October 31, 2026. The last day to license your pet without a late fee will be March 3, 2026.

Spayed/Neutered Dog or Cat = \$12

Non-Spayed/Non-Neutered Dog or Cat = \$15

Late Fee after 3/3/26 is an additional \$10 per license

Any questions please contact the Clerk's Office at (609) 654-8898 or via email at clerk@medfordlakes.com

WATCH THE ICE

As temperatures continue to drop, we want to send a friendly but important reminder about winter safety. Even when the surface of a lake appears frozen, ice thickness can vary greatly, and it may not be strong enough to support weight. This can create extremely dangerous situations.

If the ice does crack, drop to your hands and knees and crawl off the ice. This helps distribute your weight more widely, while reducing your chances of falling through the ice.

Educating yourself on ice safety and what to do in ice emergencies is a critical step in staying safe on the ice. If you are unsure of conditions, it is best to refrain from any ice activities - if in doubt, don't go out! (<https://preventionworks-nj.org/news-and-events/safety-frozen-lake-or-pond>)

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, January 17th – Hazardous Waste Collection, Tabernacle Township, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (noon), call 609-268-1220 with questions

Monday, January 19th – Borough & Colony Offices Closed, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 20th – Christmas Tree Collection Begins, see article for more information

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