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MEDFORD LAKES COLONY NEWS



Vol. 34

October 2, 2026

No. 40

APPRECIATION DINNER FOR WILL SARACENI, COLONY PRESIDENT 2025

Saturday, October 10, 2026
6:00 p.m. bar • 7:00 p.m. buffet dinner

Medford Lakes Country Club
70 Oak Drive, Medford Lakes, NJ

Make checks payable to "Medford Lakes Colony"
And mail/drop off to:
79 Tecumseh Trail • Medford Lakes, NJ 08055

Call 609-654-7747 or Email office@mlcolony.org
Deadline: Monday, October 5th

If you prefer to pay online with a debit/credit card, please visit:
<https://www.medfordlakescolony.org/presidentappreciationdinner>

Please return this slip with your payment: \$55.00/person

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, October 13th – Informational session in Vaughan Hall at 7:00 pm
Wednesday, October 14th – Deadline to request an Absentee Ballot – see article for more info.
Monday, October 19th – All-day voting on dues increase proposal beginning at 7:30 am. Results announced at the Annual Membership Meeting that evening.

COLONY MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Monday, October 19, 2026, beginning at 7:30 pm in Vaughan Hall. If you need something included on the agenda, please submit it to the Colony Office no later than Monday, October 12th. Items for the agenda and questions can be directed to office@mlcolony.org. The Annual Meeting will include departmental reports, director elections, and necessary routine business.

All members in good standing are encouraged to attend.

PROPOSED SLATE OF DIRECTORS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE OCTOBER ANNUAL MEETING

For a term to expire in 2029:

Adam Burger • Jon Moraglia • Justin Sedarat

Directors-at-Large:

Ben Asztalos • Nichole Wolf • Ron Etter

Messrs. Burger, Moraglia, and Sedarat are incumbent members and are well known to us. We are fortunate that they have agreed to serve an additional term.

Likewise, we are fortunate to have three candidates to propose for three open positions.

Ben Asztalos is also known to us as a former Director and very active member of our auxiliary MLAA. He led the Neeta sports initiative and is the immediate Past President (King Lion) of the Medford Lakes Lions Club. He is a life-long Laker with generational ties to the community. He has four children. He is a member of the Mad Paddler float group. Ben is an insurance executive and will be an outstanding addition to our Finance Committee overseeing our risk management program.

Nichole Wolf also grew up in the Lakes with strong generational connections and is raising a family here. She has served the Home and School Association for many years in multiple fund-raising and leadership capacities, including the demanding role of lunch coordinator. Also, she has been involved in the Colony's summer camp program. She has an impressive career with the Canon Corporation. Nichole will be assigned to the Recreation Committee and will serve as the Board's liaison to Camp Council.

Ron Etter has lived in Medford Lakes since 1990 and is proud to have owned three of the original log cabins in his time here. He also has a long and impressive resume of community service that includes: five years on the Colony Board including a term as Vice President of Property; 25 years in the Lions Club including a term as King Lion; two years on the Borough's Historic Preservation Committee; founding member of Scrub Pines Float group. Ron is retiring from a career in live audio production and is interested in resuming his community service.

Submitted by Will Saraceni

Immediate Past President and Nominating Committee Chair

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ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE & DUES VOTE

The Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, October 19, 2026, beginning at 7:30 pm in Vaughan Community House. Members will have an opportunity to vote on the proposed dues increase of \$50.00 (assigned to the Capital Expenditures Fund) on that day, beginning at 7:30 am until 7:00 pm in Demby Annex. Only members in good standing are permitted to vote, and it is one vote per household. Tenants are ineligible to vote.

Absentee Voting: If you know that you will be unable to vote in person on October 19th, you can make arrangements in advance to cast an absentee ballot. Requests must be made in writing to the Colony Office at 79 Tecumseh Trail, Medford Lakes, NJ 08055 with your address and signature, or by emailing office@mlcolony.org. An absentee ballot will only be issued if the member is eligible to vote at the time of request. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Wednesday, October 14th. The Colony is not responsible for mail delays at either end. Strict procedures will be in place to ensure that your vote selection is confidential, secure, verifiable, and under the control of the tellers for opening and tabulation on vote night. Your absentee ballot must be received by 7:00 pm on October 19th.

CURBSIDE BULK TRASH PICKUP

The next large trash curbside pickup is scheduled for Monday, October 5th.

If you want a pickup at your curbside on Oct. 5th, please call 609-654-9383 between Sept. 28th and Oct. 2nd and leave a message. All calls must be received by 4:00 pm on Friday, Oct. 2nd – calls received after 4:00 pm will not be added to Monday's curbside pickup.

Your message should include the following: your name, address, a contact phone number to return your call if necessary, and what you are leaving at the curbside for pickup. Do not put items out to the curb until the night before the pickup.

All mattresses, boxsprings, or tire payments must be paid by 3:30 pm on Friday, Oct. 2nd at the Borough Office.

Questions? Please contact Public Works at 609-654-9383.

NO SATURDAY LARGE TRASH DROP OFF OCTOBER 3RD & 10TH

There will be no Saturday large trash drop off behind the firehouse on October 3rd & 10th

OLD CANOE CARNIVAL TEE SHIRTS NEEDED!

The Colony Centennial Committee seeks Canoe Carnival T-Shirts from the 60's-70's-80's and 90's. Maybe in the back of the attic? In a keepsake trunk? Rag pile?

Clean or dirty, we'll take them!

If you do have an old CC Shirt, and you'd like to contribute them to the Centennial, please drop them off at the Colony Office.

CENTENNIAL LEGACY FAMILIES

The Colony Centennial Committee is seeking information on Colony LEGACY FAMILIES. Please provide specific information for members with 3rd-4th-and 5th generation membership in the Medford Lakes Colony. That means that you (as an adult), your parents, and your grandparents (or possibly your great grandparents) lived here. The current member must still reside in Medford Lakes. Please respond by email to Toni Lackey via email at toni.lackey@gmail.com. You will be contacted later for more information. Thank you.

ML STAGE ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Come one of two nights: Sunday, Oct. 18 at 5 pm OR Tuesday, October 20 at 6 pm. No preparation necessary except for those interested in singing. Come prepared to sing one verse of "God Bless You Merry Gentlemen". Everyone is welcome. There are large and small roles available. Don't want to act, just want to sing, no problem! Just want to act, can't sing, also not a problem! Can't do either but still want to be a part of the show, we'll find you a job!

ADULTS: need a minimum of 14: 7 males, 7 females
Males:

Ebenezer Scrooge - The miserly owner of a London counting-house
 Bob Cratchit - Scrooge's clerk, a kind, mild and poor man
 Marley's Ghost - Scrooge's partner who died 7 years ago/Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come (a silent phantom clad in a hooded black robe)
 Fred - Scrooge's Nephew, a genial man who loves Christmas
 Male Ensemble Roles: Narrators, Young Scrooge, Rag Seller, Merchant, Belle's husband, Fezziwig (non-speaking), Butcher (non-speaking)

Females:

Ghost of Christmas Past - Takes Scrooge on a tour of his past
 Ghost of Christmas Present - The second spirit to visit Scrooge
 Mrs. Cratchit - Bob's wife, a kind and loving woman
 Female Ensemble Roles: Narrators, Belle, Fred's wife, Housemaid, Charity Lady, Mrs. Fezziwig (non-speaking), Merchant

CHILDREN: Looking for 4 children, ages 7-15 (girls can play boy roles)
 Martha Cratchit - Bob's oldest daughter/will most likely double as Fanny (Boy Scrooge's sister)/and Girl in Sunday clothes
 Peter Cratchit - Bob's oldest son/will double as non-speaking Ignorance character
 Belinda Cratchit - Middle daughter/will double as non-speaking Poverty character
 Tiny Tim - Handicapped youngest child with the most famous line of all/will double as Boy Scrooge

REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES

This is a long one act play, so we'll mostly rehearse 2 times a week until tech week. We'll start rehearsals on October 26 and end with 3 performances in December: Friday evening, Dec. 4th, and Saturday and Sunday matinees the 5th and 6th. Any questions: call or text Jaci Keagy at 717-873-9815



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MLFD OPEN HOUSE

The Medford Lakes Fire Department is hosting our annual Open House on Tuesday, October 6th, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

This is a great opportunity to meet your local firefighters and learn more about how we serve the community. We'll have a variety of activities for all ages, including:

- Live demonstrations of firefighting and rescue techniques
- Station tours to see our trucks and equipment up close
- Fire safety information for your home and family

This event is free and open to everyone, so bring the whole family!
 We look forward to seeing you there!



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A BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT CATHEDRAL OF THE WOODS

The Cathedral of the Woods - Protestant Community Church, would like to invite members of our community to bring their furry, feathered, finned, four-legged or even favorite stuffed friends to a Community Pet Blessing at the Cathedral of the Woods on Sunday, October 4th from 2 PM to 4PM in the church's outdoor Memorial Garden area.

Let's come together to celebrate the animals who bring so much joy, compassion, and love into our lives - and give thanks for all of God's creatures, great and small! Rev. Keith Reed will be available to offer personalized blessings, treats and a special pet keepsake medallion. We hope to see you there!

****If it rains, the event will be held in the church's Todd Hall****

ML LIONS WITCHES PADDLE – SAVE THE DATE!

The 8th Annual ML Lions Witches Paddle is happening on Sunday October 25th! Save the date and stay tuned for registration at <https://mlwitchespaddle.com/> For any questions, please contact Brooke Allen-Watson at @ brookebouquets@gmail.com.

POLL WORKERS NEEDED

The Burlington County Board of Elections is calling on civic-minded residents to become poll workers for the upcoming General Election.

Prospective poll workers must be 18 years or older, registered to vote in Burlington County, and able to read and write legibly. They should also be available to work from approximately 5:15 AM to 8:30 PM on Election Day, November 3, 2026. No experience is needed, but mandatory in-person training is required. Tech-savvy citizens and dual-language speakers are strongly encouraged to consider this public service.

Poll workers will be paid \$300 for working Election Day. Poll workers will also receive pay for training, provided they work on Election Day.

To apply online or request more information about poll worker duties or training, go to <https://burlingtonnjtd.precinctcentral.com/TED/ElectionForce-Portal/JobApplication.aspx>.

Interested residents can also email RepPollworker@co.burlington.nj.us or DemPollworker@co.burlington.nj.us or call 609-265-5557.

TURKEY TROT REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Loyal Turkey Trotters – the registration link to register for the 2026 Turkey Trot is now open. Visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/MedfordLakes/MedfordLakesColonyTurkeyTrot5K>

You do not need to be a member to sign up. Please note – this event does fill up fast!

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Monday, October 5th – Curbside Bulk Trash Collection – see article for more information
Tuesday, October 6th – Recycle Collection
Tuesday, October 6th – ML Fire Department Open House, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

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