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# MEDFORD LAKES COLONY NEWS



Vol. 32
 January 5, 2024
 No. 1

## COLONY MEETING

Please join the Medford Lakes Colony Board of Directors for the first meeting of 2024 scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2024, beginning at 7:30 p.m., in Demby Annex. 2023 Colony President Mary-Ann Meehan will hand the gavel over to incoming President Steve Warren. Best wishes to Steve and the entire board in 2024.

## 2024 DUES

The 2024 Honor Roll will be printed in the News in late February. To be included in the 2024 Honor Roll, you need to pay your dues on or before January 31st. Thank you for paying your dues on time; it really helps the Colony!

Questions can be sent to the email address [office@mlcolony.org](mailto:office@mlcolony.org) or call 654-7747.

## WELCOME PACKET

Did you know the Colony website has a welcome packet filled with all kinds of interesting facts?

Please be sure to check it out. Visit <https://www.medfordlakescolony.org/about> and scroll down the page to click on "Welcome Packet."

## JOIN THE MEDFORD LAKES WOMEN'S CLUB!

Are you a Colony member looking to get involved with other ladies in Medford Lakes? Join Medford Lakes Women's Club! MLWC is a group for women living in Medford Lakes, NJ, who want to find friends and get involved in their community.

Please reach out to Vanessa Long-Farrell at [vanessalong711@gmail.com](mailto:vanessalong711@gmail.com) for more information!



# Brunch & Bingo

Jan 21st 11am-1pm  
Vaughan Hall

Please bring a dish or beverage to share. New members encouraged to attend.



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## 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 at the 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 gave.

Once again, you're encouraged to:

1) Give what you can to help a neighbor to fully participate in our Colony. Donate through your 2024 Colony bill or any time during the year at the Colony Office. Even \$5/household adds up to help!

2) Let us know if you'd like to be considered for partial dues relief. An application will be available in the Colony Office, and on our website <https://www.medfordlakescolony.org/duesreliefapplication>. We are just beginning to raise funds and want to reach as many neighbors as we can. Whatever is raised will be distributed in a confidential, fair manner.

Questions can be directed to Millie Linett at the Colony Office – 609-654-7747 or [office@mlcolony.org](mailto:office@mlcolony.org).

## WATCHING THE ICE

If you ever skate on a frozen pond or lake, you should skate with extreme caution. Even during very cold weather ice can crack and cause you or your child to fall into the icy water.

Icy water is very different from the water you swim in during the summer. It is extremely dangerous because your body will not be able to function in icy water.

Never figure skate on frozen water without checking to make sure the ice is at least six inches thick.

Never skate on a pond by yourself. Both adults and children should skate with a buddy.

There should also always be someone watching from solid ground ready to call for help.

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

Please do not take a chance and venture out onto ice that is too thin to hold your weight. Safety is first!

## PCC SPEAKER SERIES

"When the Pinelands Meets the Bay: Some Problems and Solutions" - Rick Bushnell, chairman of ReClam the Bay, will be speaker at the Protestant Community Church at an open breakfast at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, January 20, 2024, at Todd Hall. The program is open to all Medford Lakes residents.

## "FLUSHABLE" WIPES AND OTHER HAZARDS TO YOUR SEWER PIPES

Sewer problems can happen when you least expect it. With more people currently home, our Wastewater Plant is seeing an increase in flow, and a large increase in debris in the system. The debris or "rags" consist of flushable wipes, cleaning wipes, personal hygiene products, plastic wrappers, hair, and other things that should not be flushed. These items can clog your sewer lateral, costing you considerable money to fix.

According to our Wastewater Superintendent we are seeing 5 times as many rags in the system than the same time last year. These rags must be physically removed from the plant. Yes, that means an employee with a steel rake scrapes these rags out of the system every day, filling between 6 and 10 five-gallon buckets. Approximately 30-50 gallons of rags must be collected and disposed of in our trash truck, and then dumped in the land fill. However, many get into the system causing thousands of dollars in damages.

Help your own pipes and ours by practicing "Flush 4". What is "Flush 4"? There are only 4 things that should be flushed. I'll try not to be too descriptive and give you some hints: yellow, brown, upset stomach (vomit) and Toilet Paper. That's it, that's the Flush 4! If you must use wipes dispose of them in the trash can, or you may have a costly bill from a plumber to unclog your pipes!

To learn more about the havoc flushable wipes and other items wreak on our sewer system please visit the Borough's website [www.medfordlakes.com](http://www.medfordlakes.com) then click on "News Flash."

## PROJECT MEDICINE DROP

The effort to stop the abuse and diversion of prescription drugs begins at home. The drop boxes accept solid pharmaceuticals such as pills, capsules, patches, inhalers, and pet medications.

They cannot accept syringes or liquids.

The Drop Box for medications you are discarding is found at the Medford Lakes Police building, 1 Cabin Circle Drive, Medford Lakes. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. – 4 :30 p.m. Please call 609-654-2156 with questions.

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### 2024 DOG & CAT LICENSING

A free rabies clinic will be held Saturday, February 3, 2024, from 9:00am to 12:00pm  
At Oaks Hall located at  
10 Cabin Circle, Medford Lakes, NJ 08055.

Please bring proof of last rabies vaccine if you would like a three (3) year vaccination certificate.

A one (1) year vaccination certificate will be issued if proof of previous vaccination is not provided.

### NO LICENSES WILL BE ISSUED AT THE CLINIC

A Medford Lakes Municipal License is available at the Borough Clerks office during normal business hours or can be mailed to the Borough Office at 1 Cabin Circle, Medford Lakes, NJ 08055.

The last day to apply for a pet license without a late fee is March 3, 2024

Forms are available in the office and are downloadable from the website at: [www.medfordlakes.com](http://www.medfordlakes.com)

### BOROUGH TAX INFORMATION

The New Jersey State Statutes charges the Tax Collector with collecting funds needed to support Local Government, County Government, School Districts and Fire Districts.

Tax Collection Due Dates are as follows: February 1st, May 1st, August 1st, and November 1st.

Grace Period: By resolution, the Borough Council permits a grace period. The Grace period for the current year is 10 calendar days. All Tax payments are to be received in the Tax Collector's Office by 4:30 p.m. on the tenth day of the month in which they are due. Should the tenth fall on a weekend or holiday the following regular business day will be the last day of the grace period. Any payments received after 4:30 p.m. will be posted on the following business day with all interest and penalties due for that posting date.

Visit [www.medfordlakes.com](http://www.medfordlakes.com) for more information or call 609-654-8898.

### CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION:

Collection of Christmas Trees will take place on Monday, January 22, 2024.  
District Order (2,3,4,1)  
Questions? Please call 609-654-9383 – thank you!

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are moving or changing your address, please promptly notify the Colony Office by emailing [office@mlcolony.org](mailto:office@mlcolony.org) or by calling 609-654-7747.

The Postal Service is very accommodating to Medford Lakes Colony, and it is truly appreciated. However, they do not forward third-class mail. The Colony News is mailed to you weekly via third-class mail. The Post Office charges the Colony for any returned items.

Please be sure to include the Colony in your mailing changes. Thank you!

### SINCERE SYMPATHY

Our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Robin Obester Rose, 67 years young, who passed away on December 24, 2023, at her home in Medford Lakes. She was surrounded by her loving and supportive family and close friends during her recent illness. Robin was born in Plainfield, NJ, and grew up in South Plainfield, NJ. She is survived by her husband, Ronald Rose; and children, Jonathan Tierney and his wife Susan; grandchildren, John and Carson. Also son, Nicholas Tierney and his fiancé Nikki and her daughter Alexa; and son Richard Rose. She is also survived by a sister, Renee Obester and her husband Tony and brother, Robert Obester and his wife Melissa. Robin attended Drexel University for Drug Development and Clinical Research and spent her career working in Pharmacovigilance with various Pharmas and CROs.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to [glioblastomafoundation.org](http://glioblastomafoundation.org).



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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**  
Saturday, January 6 – Large Trash Drop Off and Brush & Leaf Drop Off, 7:30 am - 12:30 pm, behind the Firehouse

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