



SAW CREEK NEWS



The official publication of the Saw Creek Estates Community Association

February/March 2021

Joining the Saw Creek Board for the Right Reasons

by Kathi Connell, Board President



You want to better your community. Are you someone that recognizes problems and comes up with reasonable solutions? Are you passionate about protecting property value and making improvements that benefit members as a whole?

You have a desire to serve. If you are driven by giving back to others and helping the association to run as effectively as possible, board membership may be a good step for you.

You take problems in stride. For as many suggestions as the board gets, it also receives its share of complaints. Are you someone who remains calm and can deal with stressful situations without losing your cool? Sometimes the board must come up with creative solutions to resolve problems while still maintaining compliance. Personal agendas must be left at home.

You are open to differing viewpoints. There is often more than one "right" way to do something, so board members must be willing to listen to others' opinions and ideas.



I WANT YOU FOR THE SCECA BOARD

You want to become a better leader. Serving on the board can be a wonderful opportunity to develop your leadership skills and learn from others who are experienced board members. You can bring fresh ideas while also learning the ins and outs of community management and working with diverse people.

You do not need recognition. Being part of the board is often a thankless job. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes that members may not realize. Are you okay with putting in the work because it is the right thing to do, not because you are looking for praise from others?

As part of the Saw Creek Board of Directors, you will be on the front line helping plan for the future and ensuring that the association is working in the best interests of all homeowners and residents.

If this sounds like something you're ready to be a part of, get to know the governing documents and then go out to the community, say "hi" and start building support you're your neighbors for your plan to run for the Board!

If you have any questions regarding running for the Board or becoming a Director, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the current Directors at scebod@sawcreek.org and/or the Nominations Committee at nominations@sawcreek.org.

More information about running for the Board on page 3...



GateHouse
is coming!

Exciting News!
Watch for info about the launch of our new GateHouse access system!

Training coming soon for all residents!

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Manager's Message

by Elijah Jones, CMCA, AMS, General Manager

It's official – I've experienced a few Pennsylvania snow storms! I've seen more snow in the last two months than I did for 35 years in South Carolina. And, I am pleased to report, that I haven't been in or caused a motor vehicle accident yet.

I also had the opportunity during the month of January to watch snow being made in the Ski Area. There truly is a science behind it all that I don't fully understand, but I enjoyed getting a crash course in snowmaking techniques from our Ski Area Manager.

Many residents have reached out to me to convey their sincerest appreciation to our Maintenance Department for all their work during the snowstorms we have experienced this winter. During the first storm in December, I bunked in for the night at MSO to learn about the processes before, during and after the storm.

I kept a radio with me during the storm and would hear reports and updates throughout the day and night as our Maintenance and Public Safety staff worked tirelessly to ensure roads were cleared and passable as soon as humanly possible. There is an unshakeable sense of duty and responsibility that these individuals exhibit in the face of these storms. I sincerely appreciate all their work and their commitment to our community.

Now, I would like to switch gears and highlight some of the approved projects for 2021. The largest project we are undertaking is the renovation of the VIP Building. When you receive this paper, we will be in the midst of architectural and engineering as a scope of work is developed to put out to bid. We are excited about completing this renovation project as the VIP Building has been a subject of discussion for many years.

We will also be replacing some equipment during 2021. We've already received two new snow guns for the Ski Area. In addition, we will pursue purchasing a new backhoe and wheel loader to assist in road maintenance and snow removal.

Another big improvement planned is the relocation of the VIP Playground (now located between MSO and the VIP Building) and purchasing new playground equipment for our residents and their children to enjoy.

We have some IT projects underway including replacing our servers along with some new computers for staff to use. You will see new umbrellas around some of the pools, and potentially some access control features for our amenities before the end of the year.

There will be a period where access to the TOW complex will be interrupted as we complete a renovation of the HVAC system, indoor pool and repairs to the indoor tennis court walls and entryway. All three TOW projects are currently being engineered and will be put out for bid in February or March.

During 2020, we experienced many effects of the pandemic on projects and the availability of materials with constant price changes. As we embark on 2021, the uncertainty remains on some levels as the pandemic is not behind us yet.

We will continue to evaluate and re-evaluate projects throughout the year based on the various income streams of the Association. Watch out for updates on how your daily routines might be affected as we complete improvements within Saw Creek Estates during 2021.

Thank you all for your continued patience with the amenities as we are operating under the state mandated restrictions as to occupancy, cleaning requirements, etc. Our staff is working diligently to provide a safe environment for our residents and their guests. I am very thankful for their commitment to our community as well. It is a team effort, and I appreciate the roles each of us have in successful operation of our amenities.

If there is anything that I can do to help address any questions or concerns that you have with the operation of Saw Creek Estates, I am only an email away – feel free to reach out to me at elijah@sawcreek.org. And, yes, I do read the emails I receive.

Continue to mask up and be safe!



President's Message

by Kathi Connell, Board President

Why You Should Join YOUR Community Board

Behind every successful homeowner's association is a competent Board of Directors. Many know about Homeowner Association (HOA) boards, but few really know what goes on behind the scenes. What exactly are the HOA board duties, roles, and responsibilities? If you do not know it yet, an HOA board such as Saw Creek Estates' sets policy and direction for the association. The Board is assisted in implementing the approved policies and directives by Saw Creek's management, staff, and volunteers.

The role of a board member often goes unrecognized or unappreciated, but that does not mean it is not a rewarding or necessary position in any way. Moving into a community often means having to join an Association. This association is run much like a business, with leaders who volunteer for the Board. These leaders operate with the community's best interests in mind. They fulfill responsibilities dedicated to the welfare of the Association.

Learning is an intrinsic part of human life. And what better way to gain educational experience than by inserting yourself behind the scenes to see how an HOA operates? Apart from gaining impeccable leadership skills, you also learn valuable life lessons when you volunteer for the HOA board. Your interpersonal skills are developed as you learn how to work with others and be open-minded.

As a homeowner, it is only normal to have an interest in your investment. Hiding behind a keyboard complaining, bashing, and disrespecting management, staff, the board and/or the Association on social media is not the way to get things changed or achieve results. When you join the HOA board, you can be more involved in preserving, protecting and enhancing property values as well as your community's standard of living.

Part of the Board's responsibility is to listen to concerns from residents and, if possible, do something about them. You may not even know that your neighbors have strong opinions regarding a new change in the community until you take a position on the board.

While some are wary to become a Board member, others are born to lead. Running an Association involves a lot of voting and decision-making. The duty of care asserts that these decisions must be made with forethought and caution.

Board members must do their due diligence, researching every possible solution before arriving at an informed decision. While the HOA Board does hold considerable power within the association, it is not limitless. The laws of the land, as well as an HOA's governing documents, define the extent of the Board's authority.

Being on the Board is an experience unlike any other and, truly, one you must try. As part of the HOA board, you will be on the front lines of helping to plan for the future and ensure that our association is working in the best interest of all homeowners.

If this sounds like something, you are ready to be a part of, start building support from neighbors and talking about your plan to run for the board. WE NEED YOU!



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2021 Board Candidates Needed

by **Ida Mathew, Nominating Committee Chair**

Happy New Year Saw Creek Residents! The Nominating Committee is preparing for this year's Board of Directors election. There are three seats on the Board to be filled, each to serve a three-year term.

If you have the motivation and drive to help improve your community and serve those who live in it, then you should consider running for Board.

Every member of this community has a voice, and we should share these voices along with our talents and expertise to benefit the continued community growth that we all strive for. We have quite a few people who always volunteer and participate, and we are grateful to them. Consider sharing your gifts and talents with our community by helping to contribute to making decisions that affect all of us.

- Are you someone that recognizes problems and comes up with reasonable solutions?
- Are you passionate about protecting property value and making improvements that benefit members as a whole?
- Are you someone who remains calm and can deal with stressful situations without losing your cool?
- Are you a team player?

Qualifications for Board of Directors Candidates:

- Candidate must be a deeded owner of a Saw Creek property.
- Each candidate must be a member in good standing as outlined in the Association Bylaws.

The process is simple. We will be publishing an application online with a few questions about yourself and your commitment to Saw Creek. This application and a recent photo will then be submitted electronically to nominations@sawcreek.org

2021 Election Timeline

- **Monday, March 29 at 12 PM (EDT):** Board candidate applications are available on our website at www.sawcreek.org.
- **Monday, April 5 at 12 PM (EDT) - Thurs., May 13 at 12 PM (EDT):** All applications must be electronically submitted through the website and accompany an electronic photo of the candidate for the biography. The candidates will appear alphabetically by deeded last name on the ballot and in all other SCE publications. Candidates will have the ability to have MSO take their headshot.
- **Saturday, April 10:** Potential candidates invited to attend an informational work session with the SCE BOD & General Manager immediately following the April BOD meeting (attendance is optional).

Special Election Edition of the Saw Creek News

This edition will include but not be limited to:

- Official Notice of Annual Meeting
- Candidate Bios/Pictures
- Bylaw Amendments
- Letters to the Editor (endorsing/opposing candidates or ballot initiatives)
- Paid Political Advertising - Candidates have the opportunity to run ads in this edition of the Saw Creek News at current rates. For pricing, availability, deadlines, etc. contact our publisher Community Newspaper Publishers at mail@cnpnet.com or call (570) 476-3103. Delivery of the Special Election Edition will be on or about Wednesday, June 9, 2021.
- **Tuesday, June 1:** All voting information mailed to members in good standing as of May 1.
- **Friday, June 4 from 5:00 PM (EDT) - 6:30 PM (EDT):** Informal Candidate Forum where candidates will be asked pre-submitted questions from the membership. Questions can be anonymously submitted by emailing candidatequestions@sawcreek.org, or by dropping off questions at Member Services, marked PRIVATE no later than May 28, 2021.
- **Monday, June 7 at 12 PM (EDT) - Friday, July 2 at 5 PM (EDT):** Electronic voting takes place

- **Saturday, June 12:** Candidates will be announced to the Board of Directors at their monthly meeting. All candidates are encouraged to attend. A luncheon for candidates and Board Members will take place after the meeting. Following the luncheon, our members will be invited to a Meet & Greet the Candidates event.
- **Friday, June 25 at 5 PM (EDT):** Last day to request a voting code.
- **Saturday, July 17:** Annual Members Meeting via Zoom and the newly-elected Board members begin their three-year term. Tentative BOD orientation and reorganization meeting.

Why Run for the Board of Directors? Why Join a Committee?

by **Bruce Jacobson, Nominating Committee Member**

It's simple. If you have a complaint...if you have a pet peeve...if you have a great idea...if you want to meet interesting people in the community and maybe make some new friends, run for the Board of Directors, or join a committee. That's it in a nutshell.

You may have a problem with bus stops, dues, the restaurant... it really does not matter what your issue is. Being on the Board of Directors allows you to get serious about solving them. And not for nothing, being on a committee allows you direct access to the Board of Directors.

Up here in the middle of nowhere, even with all the events Saw Creek has, it's not easy to experience that neighborhood feel we grew up with. Participation is the best way to engage with good people up here in the woods, where we are mostly on our own and by ourselves (especially if you live alone).

We used to run into people at the butcher, the baker, the corner coffee shop. Those days are over for Saw Creekers, but for me it's a fair trade-off to be able to live in paradise, as long as I can find a way to meet people here. Running for the Board of Directors and being on committees did it for me.

Bottom line: Do not complain. Join a committee or run for the Board of Directors.

The Cristina Primrose Team

Saw Creek Home Sales

- **Currently Listed:** 24 homes as of January 31, 2021
- **Pending Settlement:** 31 homes as of January 31, 2021
- **Total Sold in 2020:** 218 homes

Information provided by the Pocono Mountain Assoc. of Realtors

PoconosHouseHunting.com



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Team Leader
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YOUR DUES AT WORK

Ski Area Update

by **Zach McCormack, Mountain Operations Manager**

Invariably, December will bring rain to the Poconos. It is almost as though we can schedule it. Many will look at 60 degrees and rain during the winter season as a relief compared to crippling blizzards that residents here often experience. There are those of us on the other side though, who love the snow, the cold, and specifically the winter recreation!

The rainstorm that devastated the area over Christmas wiped out what seemed to be any chance of opening the ski area for the holiday week. Thanks, however, to our team of dedicated snowmakers and mountain operations staff, we pulled off what seemed impossible. Recovering from such a washout requires an all-out human effort and all equipment to operate at top performance.



This process begins at the creek from which the community derives its name. Pumping water up the mountain is no easy task. However, with the newly-installed pumping system, water pressure and volumes are reliable and efficient.

This multi-year project met the deadline this December despite many setbacks attributed to COVID-19. Construction was delayed nearly two months in the spring when contractors were not able to work and many materials were unavailable. Thankfully, with good planning from a great team, everything came together to make the season happen.

The holiday week between Christmas and the New Year brought many residents and guests to the ski area who were greeted by new precautions to provide a safe environment for all involved. Plexiglass shields, socially distanced lines, and daily ticket limits were combined with a mandatory mask order to allow for safe outdoor recreation. There were no issues since everyone was respectful of the changes and most seemed glad to follow the rules so long as it meant being able to be active outside the house.

Restrictions have been eased now and more guests may safely visit the ski area. Snowmaking continues as this is written, and the plan is to have all our trails open for skiing for the holiday weekend. Skiing, snowboarding, and sleigh riding offer great opportunities to get outside to enjoy the winter season. This is especially true for this season, as many have found it to be a great way to be active while maintaining proper social distance.

The ongoing investments made to the infrastructure, the staff, and the marketing of the ski area have proven to provide an excellent return not only to those who use the amenity, but also for the real estate and rental markets that support the community. With proper planning and well-maintained modern equipment, members of the community can be sure that the hard-working mountain operations team will continue to pull off these seemingly impossible feats!

Mother Nature may have different plans for the mountain, but we will continue to bring great winter recreation to existing and new winter recreation participants.



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BOARD ACTIONS

December 2020 and January 2021

submitted by Debra J. Wulff, Board Secretary

December 2020

- The Board approved that effective Jan 1, 2021, Saw Creek Estate lot sale prices will increase to \$7,500 from \$5,000.
- The Board agreed to move forward with the Forest Management Plan as approved in the 2021 budget and pending the outcome of the report, determine if/when a deer survey is needed.
- The Board approved proposed Bylaw amendment 2021-01, Section D. Nomination of Directors. Proposed amendment will be forwarded to the Association Attorney for further review.
- The Board approved a \$1,000 donation to the CAI PA Legislative Action Committee.
- The Board authorized the General Manager to sign any future sales contracts with RGB provided, all terms of the agreement have been met. In addition, authorization was approved to allow the Board President to sign any potential deeds arising from the contracts.
- The Board authorized the General Manager to negotiate and sign any related paperwork to acquire lots from the repository.
- The Board approved nine (9) rental policy & enforcement recommendations from the Short Term Rental Ad-Hoc Committee. The recommendations can be found online in the Resource Center at www.sawcreek.org.

January 2021

- The Board approved extending the term of the Short Term Rental Ad-Hoc Committee thru Dec. 31, 2021. Committee will meet quarterly.
- The Board approved proposed Bylaw amendment 2020-03; Article IV. Board of Directors-Section C. The proposed amendment will be forwarded to the Association Attorney for further review. The Board then approved reactivating the By-Law Ad-Hoc Committee thru March 31, 2021.
- The Board approved the rental policy with revised wording to Section #1 and Section #5. The approved policy can be found online in the Resource Center at www.sawcreek.org.
- The Board approved the motion to roll over funds from the 2020 budget to the 2021 budget in the amount of \$49,920 for the replacement of the Public Safety vehicle which is being delivered in January.
- The Board approved the RGB agreement, 2nd amendment, with extension through January 29, 2022. Purchase price of new RGB lots will increase to \$6,000. The General Manager and President were given authorization to sign the amendment.
- The Board authorized the conversion (selling) of all non-compliant investments in Saw Creek's portfolio to comply with Saw Creek Estate Bylaws.

OPINION

Letters to the Editor

Members in good standing may write a Letter to the Editor. Letters of 300 words or less, in MSWord format must include name, lot and section number. Lot and section numbers are used for verification of member status only and are not printed. Before submitting a Letter to the Editor, please review the Letter to the Editor Policy in the Saw Creek website Resource Center, in the folder named Important Information. The Public Information Committee makes every effort to see that facts are printed as available space permits. Send your letter to the Public Information Committee at PIC@sawcreek.org.

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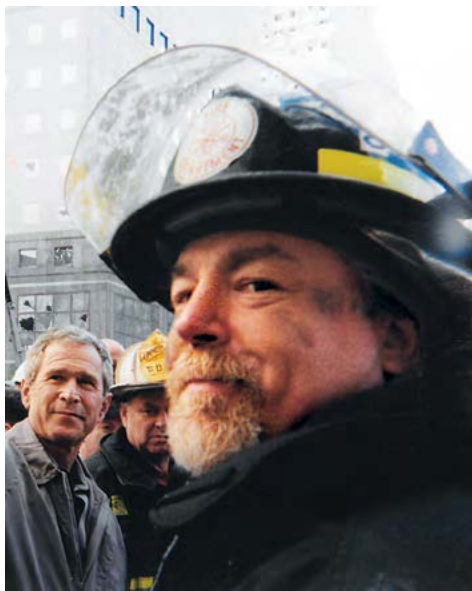
by Debbie Beall, Homeowner

The most challenging aspect of introducing our neighbor Glenn Zagoren to our Saw Creek Estates community is deciding where to begin. We could start with his childhood as an army brat growing up in the wide-open spaces of Killeen, Texas at Fort Hood. Here a long history of service to country and community was imprinted on his heart, along with a purpose of building the future, within a team, dedicated to supporting and lifting each other.

Or maybe we should begin in New York where his education, career and volunteer life took shape. Fort Hood played a major role in armed forces modernization that influenced Glenn's pursuit of Architecture and Design degrees at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. A thirst to serve his new neighbors drew Glenn to join the volunteer fire department, a three-year paramedic course and a lifetime of jumping out of bed at 3:00 a.m.

Today, he's an honorary FDNY Battalion Chief, member of the FDNY Honor Legion and President of the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs. Lucky for us, working along side eminent artists, designers, scholars and 'New York's Bravest' provided Glenn with unique experiences, insight and vision for what community spirit really means and its transformative power on the world.

Then again, we could dive straight into the juiciest stories of his world travels and career. How he ended up at the helm of Zagoren Collective,



Glenn Zagoren, VFD and President George Bush at Ground Zero



The Zagoren Family: Glenn, Angela, Genna and Kara

inspired to lead in the branding and marketing industry for 30 years after meeting Mel Karmazin, of CBS and Sirius Radio fame, is just one story among many you'll have to hear in person. Glenn's technical side, business development and internet expertise took him overseas to work with heads of state as an advisor to the Clinton and Bush administrations.

It's no surprise that passion for design and architecture built his reputation in real estate with the responsibility of marketing over \$6 billion of commercial and residential properties across New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Maryland. 'The little company that could' motto guides Glenn in coordinating the highest level of talent and service to every size client, from the Principality of Monaco to Sony and Ferrari. Always energized by solving communities most urgent needs, Glenn's newest project will bring on-site lab services for Covid testing to Walmart.

But if the end is the best place to start, we'd begin here in Saw Creek Estates. They say home is where the heart is and for Glenn, it could never be more true. The love of Glenn's life for 34 years, his wife Angela, daughters Genna at Penn State and Kara in high school, with their combined expertise, researched 60 communities and chose Saw Creek Estates to plant their family's roots.

He's volunteered on the Saw Creek Estates Board of Directors and, for the last three years, assisted Saw Creek homeowners, Board and HOA management achieve their vision. The Zagoren Collective won out over eleven competitive bids to develop the new Saw Creek Estates logo, website design and production, collateral material, videos, billboards and more.

Working closely with our General Manager, Member Services Office, and Public Information Committee every day, Glenn's team helps produce our newsletter, bulletin, emails, blast communications, event signage, digital and social media to keep us connected and safe, reflect our vibrant community spirit and assure the growth that secures our future.

Glenn's most proud of increasing traffic to our new website by 30,000 visits per month, social media awareness tenfold, reducing available homes from 100 to 20, and always increasing homeowner value and return on investment. Tears and cheers welcomed the 'You're Home at Saw Creek Estates' sales video at our 2020 Annual Meeting.

This year with the help of Glenn's team, we'll add to our social media portfolio, real estate video seminars with Tom Wilkins of Better Homes and Gardens and a campaign to distinguish Saw Creek Estates outside our gates.

Building on the success of our Zoom meetings this year, Glenn's creative vision for the future includes homeowner-run SCE-TV with live streaming and on-demand content, bringing neighbors together and extending our amenities, information, and services into SCE's more than 2500 homes. What inspires Glenn most is designing low-cost innovation for the strongest future and highest satisfaction for the neighbors he treasures the most.

Ask Glenn to elaborate on all this and more when you see him poolside, on the slopes or dining at Top of the World. Until then... Relax. Unwind. You're home. Visit sawcreek.org and click on the Saw Creek Estates portfolio at Zagoren.com to see your dues at work keeping us all connected, safe and thriving.

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Uniting Our Community By Open Hearts And Hands

by Cassandra Campea, Jo's Food Pantry

So often, it is easy to assume that everyone has adequate resources to survive and to do so in a hygienic and healthy manner when a person looks at their own circumstances and does not place themselves in the situation to see how others live. In other words, it is easy to close our eyes to the troubles in the world if we do not place ourselves in that setting.

Therefore, volunteering is so important. Once I was given the opportunity to see the struggles that people face, I was able to feel compassion and sense of empathy that I had never known before. I also gained a new respect for those who worked diligently to make certain that the needs are met for others. I consider the people that I worked with to be true heroes and role models in a society that frequently turns away from this task.

Prior to volunteering, I was aware that there were services available for those in need, but I did not understand just how much work went into providing the services nor did I have any idea exactly what was provided. When families first showed up at the food pantry, they had to fill out a form. Some people seem to be used to this process, while others seem to feel shame for being in need. The volunteers would quickly put their minds at ease by making small talk and treating them respectfully. I thought that this was one of the most important aspects, because these families are often overlooked and feel inferior in society. Never had I thought about how I would feel if I did not have food to eat. This really made me appreciate my life and look at others with more understanding than what I had before!

My life in perspective of the world has changed. It is not okay for us to continue to turn our backs on the struggles of others simply because we are comfortable with our own lives. It is not acceptable for people to be hungry or to feel inferior simply because they are down on their luck. It is not acceptable for people to continue to treat others as if they are inferior when a kind word can fix this feeling. I look forward to volunteering at the pantry because I know that I can help, and I have such a compassion for the others who I see monthly.

I know that for some of us it is hard to find the time to volunteer, but only a few short hours can change so many lives for the better. Due to the unprecedented times because of Covid-19, there is a massive need for food. During the month of November volunteers graciously helped to pack and disperse over sixty family's meals including a "Thanksgiving basket"! Again in December, volunteers worked diligently to pack monthly boxes for distribution. Though the pantry had an unexpected date change due to the forecasted weather at the time; we were still able to successfully deliver many, many meals to families of our community. We were even able to give out holiday hams!

I would personally like to thank every single volunteer, board member, office staff member and member of the community that make the operations of the pantry possible. I would also like to thank everyone for their outpouring of love and support for the pantry. Without everyone coming together, such operations would not be possible to bless so many families in our community.

On behalf of Jo's Outreach, I would like to wish everyone a happy, safe, and successful 2021. If you know a family that is in need of food, or you yourself need food, the pantry will be open first Wednesday of every month from 12 to 2pm at the VIP building. Our next pantry will be held from 12:00 to 2:00 on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. If you would like to volunteer, please stop by during our next distribution date and fill out one of the volunteer applications.



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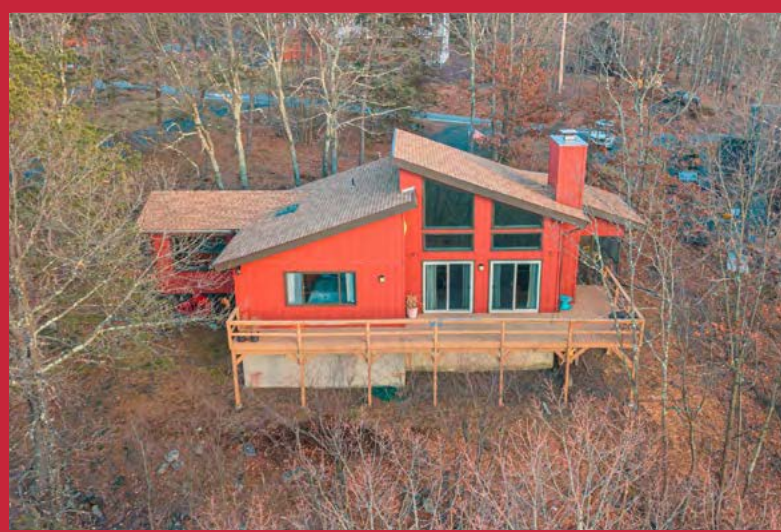


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Holidays and a New Year

by Renee Hojnowski, Program and Event Coordinator

Before we said our goodbyes to 2020, the Recreation Committee squeezed in two wonderfully attended holiday events. The first was our 3rd Annual Tree Lighting event held at the VIP. Fifty people braved the frigid night air to help decorate the new tree and watch it light up against the night sky. They were visited by our Bushkill Fire Department crew with a fire truck and they enjoyed caroling with Santa and his snowman, a cup of hot chocolate and a snack. Pictures were taken and smiles were everywhere.

Our second event, which in the past was our beloved Breakfast with Santa, came this year with a few revisions. It morphed into an outdoor drive-thru. As our 100+ visitors entered the VIP parking area they were first greeted by our storybook readers who each read a few verses of Clement Moore's "Twas the Night Before Christmas" as our guests listened from their cars.

They continued their journey to the pavilion where they were given take-home crafts. As they circled around, they were stopped by elves who handed out reindeer food, candy canes and small gifts. Elmo, Cookie Monster, a penguin, a snowman, and our dancing elves dazzled the crowd with their songs and dancing. There were holiday blowups to decorate the area as participants made their way to the final destination where Santa and Mrs. Claus and their elf handed out yet another gift. Holidays are special times to be shared by friends and family. I hope these two events made your holidays extra special.

The Recreation Committee has also been engaged in sponsoring home contests. Many have taken part in these fun activities. In November, we conducted a scarecrow contest which was won by Gianna Presutto, Natale Alvarez and Angela Zagoren. It was followed by our December Gingerbread House competition which was won by the Thompson family.

The Holiday House Decorating contest was won by Ron Griggs, with second place going to Erich Baker and honorable mention to Dave and Penny Sevek. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone for your entries.

A new year is upon us and Winterfest is just around the corner. The Recreation Committee will be looking for volunteers to help make this a special first-of-the-year outdoor event. Mark your calendars for February 13! Thanks again to all my volunteers who help with their time and ideas to help create special moments for all.

Fitness Center Updates

by Darcie Ackerman, Aquatics and Fitness Supervisor

We are open again! Members have commented on how safe they've felt while working out with the measures Saw Creek has in place. We have also received accolades about the cleanliness of our Fitness Center. Keep these points in mind:

- Occupancy limits still apply.
- The Fitness Center is being cleaned twice a day.
- There are machines that are out of service to allow social distancing.
- Masks must be worn when working out, playing tennis, racquetball, and basketball. Most members and guests have been complying with the mask mandate. Saw Creek's staff is thankful for everyone's cooperation.
- Members working out in the weight room will notice we are trying to make room for a standing weight bag. Anyone who wants to use the bag will need to bring their own gloves.
- Lastly, we are working with our instructors to begin classes again when it is safe to do so.

COMMUNITY LIVING

Know the Rules

by the Rules Committee

Many of us homeowners moved to beautiful Saw Creek to be close to nature and enjoy the sights of sounds of our flora and fauna. As noted in Section VIII. Quality of Life, Rule A1:

Each property owner of any improved or unimproved lot shall maintain his or her property in a neat and safe manner. Failure to comply will result in a Tier 2 Citation and where applicable, cost incurred for removal of item(s).
Amended June 2017.



In keeping with that spirit, it's important for homeowners to maintain a neat appearance so we can all enjoy the view. Unsightly items piled up in your yard, i.e., plastic bags filled with refuse, piles of "stuff" lying about, unused toys and dilapidated vehicles that aren't road-worthy, etc., ruin the aesthetics of the neighborhood.

Your property does not have to be professionally landscaped to be neat. As shown in the photo, you can easily use the natural materials already on your property, including rocks and plants native to our region, to make your property neat and safe while maintaining the serene woodland setting of Saw Creek.

Please be a good neighbor and take good care of your property. Your neighbors will love you and thank you for it!



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WORKOUT AT HOME **A FUN WAY TO GET HEALTHIER**

This program gives you a basic exercise to do each day. Pick up your free February Calendar of Fitness Challenges or download one from our website. **There is a child's calendar and an adult calendar.** Parents, sign off on your child's calendar and it can be re-deemed to Recreation for a prize after the end of the month! Pick up your form outside MSO or at the Recreation Office. Contact Darcie @ 570-588-9329 X2218 for more information.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT | 570-588-9329 X2218 | recreation@sawcreek.org



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- Frosty and friends visit
- Scavenger Hunt
- Take-home crafts

9:00AM: Ski Race Registration Table Opens!
10:00AM: Ski and Snowboard races!
11:00AM: Music over the Mountain Dance Contests with Prizes!
12-1PM: Winter Photo Booth
1:00 PM: Awards Ceremony
1-2 PM: Hot Dogs & Hot Chocolate
2:00PM: Sled Races *must use SCE provided sleds*

Medals & prizes will be awarded to the winners of the ski, board & sled races.

REGISTRATION FOR SKI RACES REQUIRED | Rain date: Sunday Feb. 14

RECREATION DEPARTMENT | 570-588-9329 X2217 | recreation@sawcreek.org

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Gingerbread Contest



The Thompson Family

Building Block Contest



Tristan and Florian T.

Scarecrow Contest



Gianna Presutto



Natalie Alvarez



Angela Zagoren

Pumpkin Contest



Kara J.



Natale A.



Nick Dutczak



Kim Perez

Holiday Decorating Contest



2229 Southport Drive



121 Luton Court



2142 Southport Drive

Photo Contest Autumn



Erwin Francis Argonza



Karyl Fitzsimmons



Bruce Brandli



Erwin Francis Argonza

Photo Contest Summer



Michael Gehman



Richard Ackerman



Jerome Inder

Photo Contest Spring



Richard Ackerman



Brett Healy



Frances Valentine



David Henon

Photo Contest Winter



Kathi Connell



Bruce Brandli



Tiffany Gomez



Zach McCormack

SCE CONTEST WINNERS

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Saw Creek Estates Lots for Sale

If you would like to enjoy the year-round amenities and many other benefits of being a member of Saw Creek Estates, now's your chance! Saw Creek Estates Community Association holds title to the vacant lots listed below.

All lots are free and clear of taxes, liens or encumbrances. Lots will be sold as-is for \$7,500 each. The price is not negotiable and subject to all standard real estate transfer terms, conditions and fees. For more information, contact Member Services at 570-588-9329 or email memberservices@sawcreek.org. Price and availability are subject to change, so act now!

Lot	Address	Status	Lot	Address	Status
0007-0250	Cherry Ridge Road	Available	2049-0270	Scarborough Way	Available
0027-0260	Park Court	Available	2054-0270	Scarborough Way	Available
0030-0260	Park Court	Available	2142-0280	Scarborough Way	Available
0035-0250	Clifton Drive	Available	2193-0300	St Andrews Drive	Available
0044-0260	Cherry Ridge Road	Available	2224-0300	Bellingham Drive	Available
0188-0230	Decker Road	Available	2251-0300	Bellingham Drive	Sold
0199-0220	Decker Road	Available	2361-0310	Southport Drive	Available
0239-0220	Ansted Court	Available	2722-0190	Radcliff Road	Available
0273-0210	Saunders Court	Available	2723-0190	Decker Road	Available
0699-0120	Regent Road	Available	2745-0190	Radcliff Road	Available
0747-0130	Cornwall Place	Available	2768-0190	Decker Road	Available
0748-0130	Cornwall Place	Sold	3012-032a	Braintree Court	Sold
0777-0130	Regent Street	Available	3018-032a	Braintree Court	Available
0970-0140	Canterbury Road	Available	3050-0330	Alford Court	Available
1050-0150	Canterbury Road	Available	3057-0330	Alford Court	Available
1159-0160	Salisbury Road	Available	3112-0330	St Ives Court	Sold
1258-0180	Winchester Way	Available	3136-0330	Dunchurch Drive	Sold
1396-0010	St Andrews Drive	Available	3331-0350	Prestwick Lane	Sold
1521-0080	Woodbridge Dr. East	Available	3332-0350	Prestwick Lane	Sold
1522-0080	Woodbridge Dr. East	Available	3335-0350	Prestwick Lane	Sold
1642-0070	Woodbridge Dr. East	Available	3367-0350	Yorkshire Lane	Sold
1710-0060	Woodbridge Dr. East	Available	3382-0350	Brighton Drive	Sold
1740-0060	Ludlow Court	Available	3436-0360	Kirkham Road	Available
1741-0060	Ludlow Court	Available	3498-0370	Bedford Drive	Sold
1791-0050	Winsford Way	Available	3500-0370	Bedford Drive	Available
1824-0050	Brentwood Drive	Available	3506-0370	Bedford Drive	Sold
1842-0050	Brentwood Drive	Available	3521-0370	Bedford Court	Sold
1981-0030	Manchester Drive	Available	3573-0370	Decker Road	Available
2035-0030	Brentwood Drive	Available	3586-0370	Kensington Drive	Available
2036-0030	Brentwood Drive	Available			

Parental Advice from a Swim Instructor and Lifeguard

by Darcie Ackerman, Aquatic and Fitness Supervisor

During swim lessons, I begin lessons with some safety advice for the parents and children. The first steps are 1) to always ask before entering the pool, 2) be aware of where the lifeguard is and 3) know your limits.

For parents, a great time to talk about water safety and expectations is when applying sunscreen. When you enter a pool area, water park or lake, look around for hazards as you walk in and get your children used to waiting and listening for you to tell them where they can swim, if they can jump in and all other safety related issues.

It is important to get your children used to talking about safety so when you enter a high excitement area, such as a water park, your children know safety first.

How do you decide what limits to impose and how to help your children make good water safety choices? Start by teaching your child their height and how to read the depth of the water on the pool deck. They should know what is over their head and where they would have trouble touching the bottom.

Teach your children that whatever adult they are with needs to be watching them without any distractions. Life is full of distractions, both internal and external. Someone may start talking to you, your phone may ring or maybe you get hungry or thirsty; these are all external distractions. You may have a work deadline you are thinking about or another situation that is weighing on your mind; these are internal distractions.

Have your kids hold you accountable and get your attention if you are distracted. Also, know who you can trust watching your children in the pool, and if you don't trust them with your child's life, be sure to have your child wear a correctly fitted United States Coast Guard approved life jacket.

Make your kids part of your safety team. Teach them that breath holding contests are risky behavior that can cause someone to pass out underwater. Teach them not to roughhouse or run on the pool deck because falling on the cement could really hurt them.

Have them watch out for others when they are in the water. Often, people swim right past someone who is struggling in the water. Teach your children to look out for people under the water and to count to six and tell an adult if they haven't moved.

If you would be interested in Red Cross Safety classes for children, please email Darcie@sawcreek.org.

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Notice to All Residents

As a friendly reminder, there has been an increase to all Fines and Citations Fees contained within the Rules and Regulations document. The increase was effective January 1, 2021, after it was approved by the Board. See the below chart for the updated Fines & Citation Fees.

More detailed information can be found in the SCE Rules and Regulations area of the Saw Creek website in the Resource Center at www.sawcreek.org.

SECTION XI. FINE & CITATION FEES

The fines/citations will be as follows:

	1 st Citation/Offense	2 nd Citation/Offense	3 rd , et al Citation/Offense and Suspension of Amenities
Tier 1	\$60.00	\$85.00	\$110.00 90 calendar days
Tier 2	\$160.00	\$210.00	\$260.00 90 calendar days
Tier 3	\$260.00	\$385.00	\$510.00 120 calendar days
Tier 4	\$510.00	\$760.00	\$1,010.00 120 calendar days
Tier 5	\$1,010.00	\$1,510.00	\$2,010.00 240 calendar days
Tier 6	\$2,510.00	\$3,510.00	\$5,010.00 364 calendar days
Tier 7	\$5,010.00	\$7,510.00	\$10,010.00 364 calendar days

When no amount is specified for particular violation of SCE Rules and Regulations, the fine assessed will be a Tier 2 Citation.

Does Your Dog Need Therapy?

by David J Henon, University of Pets and Saw Creek Critters

I have been a dog trainer and behaviorist for over a decade now. I sometimes consider myself a dog therapist. I try to get into the dog's head and figure out why a behavior is occurring. Most of the time it is because the dog is getting some satisfaction out of the behavior. Like humans, dogs are more likely to repeat a behavior if there is something in it for them, like a reward. That is why I train mostly based on positive reinforcement.

Dogs learn through two methods. Classical conditioning relies on a sequence of events. For example, take the dog that goes crazy every time he hears the jingle of keys. A set of keys, by itself, has no special meaning for the dog. But when those keys are linked, in the dog's mind, with walks, the sound can trigger as much excitement as the walk itself.

The other training method is Operant Conditioning where the dog receives consequences to his behavior. You ask him to sit, he sits, and you reward, but if he does not sit, he does not get a reward. Just like humans. We go to work every day and we collect a paycheck. If the paycheck stops, we stop going to work.

When I am doing behavior modification with canine clients, I sometimes have to use reverse psychology to undo a behavior. For example, the doorbell rings and 99.9% of the time someone is going to be standing at the door. Instead, I have someone ring the bell and leave and there is no one at the door.

Dog Training boils down to this: the dog can have what he wants as long as he is well behaved. One issue I hear a lot is 'my dog jumps'. I watch as the dog jumps on the owner, the owner pushes him away and says 'Off'. But the dog keeps jumping because he is getting a reward, attention, and even though it is negative attention, it is still attention. As soon as the owner paid attention to the dog, he got what he wanted. You must learn to ignore them.

Sometimes a dog has been doing the behavior so long it becomes habit and will take time just like any bad habit to extinguish.

Sometimes when I am dealing with aggression or anxiety, I will also refer clients back to their veterinarian for medication as well. I tell folks, I am the therapist, and they are the physician and together we come up with a treatment plan. The medication allows the dog to relax while learning new coping skills.

I have studied canine behavior for many years and find it fascinating. I have the ability to read them. Dogs do talk, just in a different language. Woof!

New Puppy?

by David J. Henon, Saw Creek Critters and University of Pets

Did you get a puppy or a new dog over the holiday? Maybe you got a puppy during the COVID-19 lockdown. Here are just a few suggestions to help with the stress of having a new dog or puppy in the home.

- First, I would be remiss if I did not suggest enrolling in a basic obedience course.
- Second, get a crate. It will save you so many headaches and will set the dog up for success. The dog should be in the crate when you are not home or when you cannot keep an eye on them. Crates are also good for potty training because dogs will not soil where they live (their den).
- Get a Kong, stuff it with peanut butter and freeze it. You can give them the Kong when you leave for the day or if you have something to do around the house. It will keep them out of trouble.
- Start leash training immediately, teaching the dog to walk properly on a leash without pulling.
- Socialize the heck out of them. Get them around other dogs and all different types of people. You want to expose them to anything they will encounter throughout their life.

I often tell folks that having a puppy can be stressful but is so worth it. Enjoy your new best friend and invest in their future. The more you put into it, the more it will pay off. Woof!



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A Juggling Act Performed by Working Parents During the Coronavirus Pandemic

This article was written by several working parents who wish to remain anonymous, as we feel like most parents right now can relate to some thought or another of ours!

In the Springtime, when COVID-19 closures first began, what were your initial thoughts?

"I wasn't sure of what to expect, really. We were told the shutdown was only going to last a few weeks. Nobody really had a concrete understanding of what the coronavirus even was. I was nervous and freaking out about keeping my kids safe and healthy. I had no idea it would turn out the way it did!"

"I felt scared and anxious because I did not know what to expect! How do we stay healthy? What do we do about money if we are laid off? How do we manage working if the schools are closed? All these thoughts were racing through my head. I could not imagine how everyday life will change, but I knew one thing. It will not be the same."

"When we first shut down in March, I assumed that it would be a for a few weeks, maybe a month at most. Little did I know that this would become a new way of life for us."

What life changes did you make because of your children having to preform "virtual learning" (aka school from home)?

"We shuffled furniture around, we got an extra desk from my in-laws. We set-up little work areas for each kid so they had their own space to concentrate and learn. I had to switch to a modified work schedule which is a few days remote and a few physically at work. Although I am very fortunate that I can work remotely sometimes it feels like work has no end. It has often caused me to work longer days as there is no longer a boundary between work and personal time. I am often answering texts and emails last at night, so I don't fall behind the next day"

"Well, I set up a workspace for my 2 kids to sit and work. I thought it was important for them to have some space to focus. I had lost my job, due to lack of work, so I was home with them at first. I then got a part-time job so I could spend the time at home with my kids on the days they were home learning virtually. I could not afford to not work, but I also did not want to send my kids to daycare if I didn't have to. It seemed to all work out well for me. I got lucky because I was really freaking out about how to balance it all out! I know that there are many parents who had to make some crazy adjustments to their schedules to keep their jobs and make sure their kids are taken care of and safe. Its definitely a difficult situation for many working parents."

"We had to rearrange the living room area, creating a working station for each child and me. Working remotely was not easy. It felt like double duty all day long. At first virtual learning was a challenge, especially for me at that time 7-year-old, who needed constant redirection and help not only with learning itself, but with using a computer also. I started my days by

helping children with their schoolwork. After I made sure they are ok to complete everything, I went to work to finish my duties there. It was exhausting. But it made kids and us closer and taught everyone a life lesson – We can overcome any obstacle if we stay together and help one another."

Do you feel your child/children are getting what they need academically from this new way of learning? What model of school did you choose and why?

"I think that it's really hard to say. It is especially concerning for younger children who really need the one on one instruction. We are doing mixed learning; Home 3 days and in school 2 days. I like that my child can physically go in to school at least 2 days a week to get the necessary instruction and interaction. Sometimes it gets a little frustrating when I am home helping my child with virtual work. I am not always sure how to explain things to her or make sure she is understanding the content correctly, as I am not a teacher. My daughter also seems to complete her work super early, so sometimes I question the quality of the work given to her. I check it and there are rarely mistakes and does not seem rushed. Is she getting enough content? Is she not being challenged enough? Is she really learning anything? It's hard to tell."

"I honestly feel like children are not getting what the academically need from this new way of learning, regardless of which school model they choose. I personally chose mixed learning – 2 days in school and 3 days home. Me and my husband are both working, but it did not feel safe sending kids to school for 5 days, although this option was available. On the other hand, doing cyber school would take away the sense of the routine completely, and kids will miss out interacting with other children. We all are just trying to do our best with what we have the best way we know how."

"I feel that everyone is doing the best they can given the current circumstances. I honestly thought the days my kids are home learning would be more interactive, but I soon found out that that is more what cyber school is like. My kids have several google meets a day with their class and teacher, they are doing mixed learning which means 3 days learning from home and 2 days at school. This was the best option for us as we both are working parents."

If you could change one thing about your situation what would it be?

"Honestly, I wish my kids could go full time. They miss their friends and yearn for that social interaction. Many things have changed for them. No gym equipment, constant cleaning, disinfection and many, many rules to follow. I am concerned about the long-term effect of this whole entire thing, what will they remember about this time? I worry they are getting too much screen time, we never had electronic devices like this when we were growing up."

"I really can't wait for my kids to go back full-time. I do not think it's beneficial for kids to be home so often lacking social interaction and indulging in hours and hours of screen time. Also, it is a bit concerning to think about how our children's immune systems are being affected by the constant need to clean and be sheltered from germs. I understand that its necessary to try avoid contact with the virus, for our safety and the safety of others, but if these kids don't get exposed to other germs, it's going to seriously compromise their immune systems and they will get even sicker than usual if they ever do get exposed to any virus."

"If I could change one thing about our situation, I would simply make the virus disappear. Children miss out a lot on human communication, they want to play at the park without always being cautious about sanitizing, they want to go places and not have to wear a mask, they just want to simply be carefree children. Instead they have virtual school and virtual friends, virtual games and online chats. They live their little lives inside their screens. The scariest part is that is how that might remember their childhood!"



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(continued on next page)

Working Parents cont.

What are your concerns about the spread of Covid? What steps are you taking to help reduce the risks?

"My kids wear masks when they should, I bought ones with their favorite characters on them. They follow the school rules, but they do enjoy the mask breaks that are given. We wash and rewash our hands constantly. We also use hand sanitizer when we are out and cannot wash our hands."

"I mean, we take the necessary and mandatory precautions. We all wear masks. We wash our hands very often. I try not to go too overboard, though. I am afraid of our immune systems getting compromised. We should still be exposed to some germs, as it does help strengthen our immune systems. I believe that sheltering kids completely will only make them even sicker if they do catch any virus. That is why I do continue to take my kids out and keep them involved in the community and socialize with friends. I'm lucky to have healthy kids who are not high risk. I do keep in mind that not everyone is as healthy as we are, so we do try our best to keep our germ to ourselves, keep a safe distance, wear masks, avoid touching things and continue to wash/sanitize our hands often."

"We wear masks when we go outside on the regular basis, we wash hands constantly and always sanitize when we cannot wash hands. We are fortunate not to be in one the risks groups. However, we are still concerned about the chance of getting sick. It seems like this virus is unpredictable and you never know how a person will overcome the disease even if they do not have underlying health condition. And of course, we are concerned about passing the virus to the people in the risk groups. We take it very seriously and do everything we can to help to stop the spread of the virus."

On a positive note, what is one thing that has changed for the better since this whole thing started?

"One thing that change for better is that Pandemic taught all of us to be thankful for what we have and not to take it for granted. It taught us that staying home and being healthy and safe and together is something to be happy about and grateful for. It made us closer and gave us the sense of unity."

"I get to spend more time with my kids. Review their day to day work and help teach. Although my patience often runs thin, I am doing the best I can. I did not set out to be a teacher but as a mom you learn to roll with the punches."

"I took this opportunity to enroll back into school. I figured since I lost my job (due to COVID), I'd get back into working on my degree. I also work part-time at a new job, so I do wear many hats and it does get a little crazy, but it seems to all be worth it. My kids are happy and healthy, and I get to spend more time with them, I have a job that I really enjoy, and I have an opportunity to work on my degree. Although there have been many frustrating aspects to this situation, I've also gotten a lot of positive outcomes from it. Life is what you make it!"

How are your children dealing with and feeling about virtual learning? Do they like it? Hate it?

"My children seem to enjoy a little extra time at home sometimes, mostly because it means they can put on some comfy clothes and relax in the mornings. They enjoy having a little extra time to sleep and get ready on virtual learning days. But sometimes, they get bored at home. They miss the social interaction. My 3rd grader gets excited to prepare for the days before she physically goes into school. I can tell she misses it. It's a little sad."

"My kids often say they miss their friends and want to go back to "normal". They miss the simple things like sitting and talking with their friends at lunch time, playing with equipment for gym, and even the simplest of things like giving a high-five! They do understand that they wear masks to protect others, but I do hear some squawking now and then. My older child often gets frustrated because she feels like they assign work that they have not reviewed, she is also a social butterfly so the lack of personal interaction at school bothers her."

"It seems that my children like certain things about virtual learning like more flexibility, less strict routine, a little later bad time. The thing that they miss about regular school days are being able to play with their

friends outside during the recess, being active and run around and exercise at the gym class, in person instruction and undivided attention of the teachers."

What are some ways you have tried to make this experience enjoyable for your kids?

"I've definitely put a lot of effort into creating a routine. My kids know what to expect from each day, which I think makes everything a lot easier for them. It was hard at first and a little chaotic. I also put some special effort into making sure they have a quiet space to focus and do their work. I let them decorate and pick out some new school supplies to keep on their desks. I tried my best to make it as positive as I could."

"We are trying to create a daily routine, and when the work is finished, we would do something together, like an art project, board game, puzzle or baking something delicious as a treat. It helps them to stay focused through schoolwork because they are excited to do something together next. We try to do our best and encourage our children, tell them they are doing a great job, it is important they feel our support through these challenging times."

"I believe positive reinforcement, like other attributes, start at home. I wear a mask and so they do too. I try not to complain too much in front of them but rather say, 'Well this is how it is for now, let's make the best of it.' My older child is a big help to my younger child, and I know that makes her feel important, she actually wants to become a teacher when she grows up. I am fortunate to have a large family foundation that is supportive and will pick me up if things get too tough, I know not everybody has that. My kids learn one day with their grandparents and they enjoy that quality time spent together. We are most out of this unprecedented situation."

We hope that soon the COVID-19 virus will be under control. Until then, it is important that the people of the community all work together to keep each other safe and healthy. Please continue to social distance, wear your mask and wash your hands regularly. If you are feeling ill or have any symptoms, please stay home!



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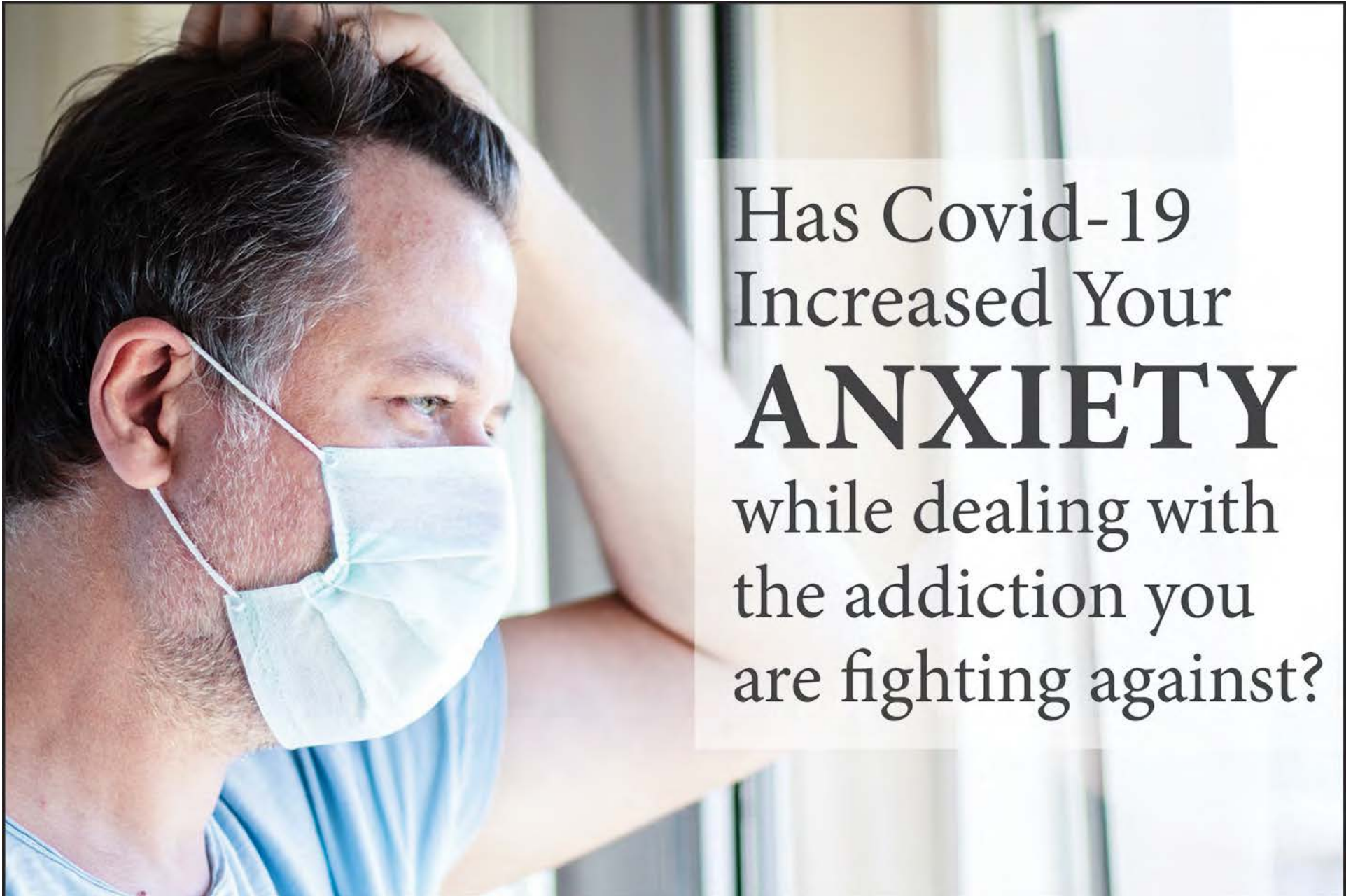
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Looking for Community Writers and SCE Newspaper Contributors

by Amelia Battipaglia, Communications Assistant

The Saw Creek Estates Community Association is currently inviting and urging homeowners to participate in contributing to the Saw Creek community newspaper by joining the Public Information Committee (PIC)! In conjunction with the Member Services Office and the Board of Directors, the Public Information Committee is proud to create a newspaper that informs Saw Creek homeowners of events both in the community and in the surrounding areas.

As a community, it is so important for the people within it to stay connected. Do you have some interesting experiences and stories to share from living in this area? Do you enjoy interviewing people and seeking out stories? Do you enjoy writing? Are you good at proofreading? There are many ways you can contribute to the SCE Newspaper! Contributing to the newspaper and sharing your voice is a great way to participate and stay connected in the community.

The Public Information Committee currently meets the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM in the Mountain Room. If you are interested in joining and contributing to the Saw Creek Newspaper, please do not hesitate to reach out. We want to hear from you!

To apply for committee membership, pick up an application at the Member Services Office or access it at www.sawcreek.org.

Writing isn't your thing? There are many other committees within the community, several of which have vacancies. For a complete listing of committee meeting information, including dates and times, please check out the committee calendar on the member services website under the "Stay Connected" tab.



thanks

Dear Saw Creek,

Thank you for supporting the Christopher Kuna Giving Tree. This year, with your help, we were able to collect 550 gifts for 11 families in our community. We would not have been able to do this without your assistance. We are very grateful and appreciate everything you did to promote and help us with collecting gifts. We definitely succeeded in putting smiles on so many faces within our community this holiday season.

We hope to have your continued support next year.

From the Bushkill Volunteer Fire Company
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Women's Club News

by Ginni Cozzi, Club President

The members of the Saw Creek Women's Club want to wish all of our friends and neighbors here in Saw Creek a very happy and healthy 2021! This past year has been difficult for everyone, and we all miss our meetings and excursions, but we also know it is up to each and every one of us to keep ourselves and each other safe and healthy.

As a result, we have not had a meeting since November and are still debating about a February meeting at the time this article is being written. We can meet in the Mountain Room under CDC and Saw Creek guidelines, or we can possibly Zoom the meeting if we can find someone who is tech savvy enough to set it up!

We did continue to raise money for our scholarship fund despite not being able to gather. We held an online Pampered Chef Party in November and realized \$233. Along with a generous donation of \$2,000 from a couple who remains anonymous, we have done well and hope to continue with fundraising in the spring. We thank everyone who participated.

The Saw Creek Women's Club usually meets the first Thursday of every month in the Mountain Room at the TOP Complex at 12:30 for lunch and a business meeting followed by talking and laughter. If you are new to Saw Creek and think you might want to join us, call Ginni at 570-588-0555 for updated information. We are so hoping to meet in March and "get back to normal." COME JOIN US!



Help reduce your guests wait time!

Register them early using GATE MANAGER on our website or by calling Public Safety: 570-588-5151



Men's Club News

by Bill Montgomery, Club President

Hello and welcome to 2021. Unfortunately, Covid-19 is still playing a major part in our daily lives. We had another partial shutdown in December, lasting for around three weeks, and now we have gone back to previous restrictions. Of course, this has affected the Men's Club along with the rest of our homeowners. There seems to be some light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccines being approved and hopefully distributed soon.

The Club did not meet in December or January, but we are planning to give Zoom a try in February.

I can report on a new venture that the club started in the fall - the new "McDade Hiking Group" which had 17 members and guests participating. Thank you to Frank DenDulk for starting this fun, healthy and educational new activity. Hopefully this group will continue to grow.

On December 19, 2020, several club members volunteered to assist with the "Jolly Jamboree" event which was held by our Recreation Department. This drive-thru event was handled in a safe and secure way and gave the participants, especially the kids, a way to celebrate Christmas.

Thank you to Renee Hojnowski and her staff and all the volunteers who helped to make this event so successful. I won't give his identity away, but one of our members filled in as Santa and did a wonderful job. His "Ho-Ho-Ho" could be heard outside of our gates.

I cannot invite you to one of our meetings at present, but once things get back to "normal," we meet the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM in the Mountain Room. If you would like any additional information about our club, please contact our club secretary, Joe Doe at Josdoe@yahoo.com or call him at 570-588-6858.

In the meantime, stay safe, wear a mask and practice social distancing when possible.





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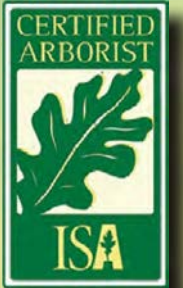
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