# SAW CREEK NEWS &



The official publication of the Saw Creek Estates Community Association

# **Heroes Among Us - Right Here in our Own Community!**

by Jessica VanDerVliet, Director of Community Relations and Kathi Connell, Board of Directors President

On behalf of the community, I would like to congratulate Dee Leone, Jordan & Yolande Minton and Ida Mathew for winning the American Red Cross "Hero Awards" for 2019 and 2020. A special Thank you to PA State Representative Rosemary Brown for presenting the awards at two special ceremonies.

There are spectacular people living in our community who go above and beyond to help other. Each of these individuals sprang into action to help others in need. They are truly heroes!

We recognize these individuals, our local heroes, for their selflessness and courage by making significant and positive differences in our community and exemplifying the Red Cross mission.

#### Ms. Dee Leone **Jordan and Yolande Minton**

Darcie Ackerman, Aquatic and Fitness Supervisor, nominated Ms. Dee Leone, Saw Creek lifeguard, for the "American Red Cross Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders" and Jordan and Yolande Minton as the Pocono Medical Hero with a Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action as a Pocono Adult Good Samaritans.

In 2019, Jordan and Yolande Minton, homeowners, came across an unconscious female in the Top of the World pool area. Mr. Minton, a retired FDNY Bureau of EMS Paramedic, with the assistance of Dee Leone, a lifeguard who is American Red Cross trained in Lifeguarding, AMR Lifeguard supervising, AED, and CPR, used a bag valve mask to deliver lifesaving breaths to her, until the local EMS responded. There was not a minute of hesitation from any of them to do what it takes to help save another's life.

#### **Ida Mathew**

Kathi Connell, Board President, nominated homeowner Ida Mathew for the American Red Cross "Community Impact Hero Award" which is presented to an individual, community group, neighborhood organization, or local company that consistently demonstrates a commitment to making a difference in the community.

In 1999, in a little chapel called Light of the World Church, the Pastor's wife, JoAnn Pierri, had a heart for the needy and rented a storage unit which she named the "Blessing Bin." There she gave clothing and food supplies to the needy. JoAnn always had a heart for the less fortunate.

As the church grew and moved to other locations over the years, there was always a need to feed and clothe the hungry. When JoAnn passed away in 2007, the mantle was passed to Ida Mathew who continues the mission of feeding the hungry. In honor and remembrance of JoAnn, Ida renamed the Blessing Bin, Jo's Pantry.

Jo's Outreach is a Pennsylvania state registered food pantry serving people in need in Monroe and Pike Counties. Originally part of the ministry of

Continued on page 6...



April/May 2021

Bill Montgomery, Ida Mathew and Kathi Connell, Board President



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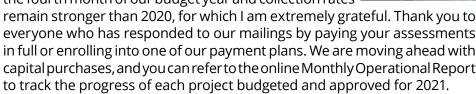
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## Manager's Message

by Elijah Jones, CMCA, AMS, General Manager

As I write this article, we are experiencing a 65° day, which points to an upcoming highly anticipated spring! I hope you have enjoyed winter and stayed well in the process.

Now onto business... Community finances. We are in the fourth month of our budget year and collection rates



Speaking of budgets, in 2021 we increased our target for the collection of prior year's assessments. In 2020 with the increased property transfers, we were able to surpass our goal for delinquent assessment collection. I am very grateful to our accounts receivable team who work tirelessly to keep the Association funded.

From my perspective, collecting delinquent accounts is fundamentally important. When an owner purchases a lot within Saw Creek Estates, they enter a covenant (or contract) with the other owners in the community that they are going to do many things, one of which is pay their portion of annual expenses. For a small contingent of the community to ride on the financial coattails of those who fulfill their financial obligations to the Association is not fair.

As collections have always been an essential part of my responsibilities, we began a targeted collection effort in the fourth quarter of 2020 sending demand letters to a group of delinquent owners. In addition, some legal actions begun prior to my arrival were dusted off and initiated once again. These legal actions include executing our judgements against personal property and real estate. In layman's terms, the Association has the authority to seize your personal property (i.e. furnishings in your home, vehicles, etc.) to assist in clearing your financial obligations. This action can be taken multiple times to clear a debt. In addition to personal property, the Association can also take possession of a lot (and the house on that lot) to satisfy any judgments that the Association has been awarded. The lot/house will be auctioned off and the Association could potentially take title to it if there were no other bidders at the auction. To convert the property to cash (to help settle the delinquency), we would evict the occupants of the home and sell the property. In the past three months, I've authorized two personal property executions and two real property executions to collect some of our very delinquent accounts.

In March, we identified ten additional accounts of varying delinquency to refer to our attorney for collection. Those demand letters will be arriving in mailboxes as you read this article. Based on the responses from these owners, we will begin the process of obtaining judgments and executing those as well.

Why do I tell you all this? First, we all can run across hard times financially. Often a person enters delinquency and we do not hear from them until thousands of dollars in late fees and interest have accrued onto their account. **COMMUNICATE WITH US EARLY.** If we know what your circumstances are, we may be able to preempt the accrual of some fees/interest charges by having you enter a structured payment plan. But, if there is no communication, our hands are increasingly tied on what options we have to assist you. The best form of communication is email to <u>accounting@sawcreek.org</u>. Alert us to any issues you have making payments on your account.

Second, for those of you who pay your assessments in a timely manner, thank you! I know at times it could be difficult to make payments, but thank you for doing your part to fulfill your financial obligations to the other owners in Saw Creek Estates. I am conveying this information to you to demonstrate that we take collection of all accounts seriously. We will do all we can to keep all owners on a fair and level playing field where some are not financing the enjoyment of our great community for others who are delinquent.

Later this year, we hope to implement a new amenity access control system that will help us ensure that those members who are not in good standing at any time throughout the year are barred from the amenities that the annual assessment pays to fund year-round.

Thank you for your time and attention to these important matters!



# **President's Message**

by Kathi Connell, SCE Board President

#### A Note of Appreciation to our Volunteers

As we reflect on 2020 and into 2021, we must acknowledge the hard work and selflessness of our volunteers and continue to be grateful to them. Their kindness and generosity made our work possible throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.



On behalf of our Board, Management, Staff, and members, we thank ALL our volunteers and recognize the power of volunteers and the extraordinary individuals who are at the center of again making Saw Creek Estates a CAI Gold Star Community and recently being recognized as a "Community of Excellence!"

Our community members have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by coming together and working to ensure we can make it through this crisis together. Although the coronavirus pandemic has limited our events and kept our dedicated volunteers safe at home, we remain grateful for all they do for our community. We want to honor their efforts and express our gratitude for everything you do during National Volunteer Week.

Every day since the pandemic, we experienced change. Change to our schedules, schooling, work environments, workload, and even to the way we celebrate our holidays. In these times of dynamic and fluid change, volunteer engagement has looked different and has required creativity, flexibility, and agility. We recognize our Saw Creek residents working hard at their day jobs, supporting their families, and still finding the energy to give back to their community.



National Volunteer Week is being celebrated April 18-24 this year and is an opportunity to celebrate the impact of volunteer service and the power of our volunteers who make a difference in our community. We want to recognize, thank and show our appreciation by having the opportunity to gather with other volunteers, management, and staff, kick back and relax, and celebrate what was accomplished in the past year. So watch your calendar for our special recognition event to honor you, our volunteers.

Volunteers provide all kinds of necessary services to our community and can be one of the most fulfilling things you can do with your time. As well as making a real difference to the community you are helping, you can build your skills, meet new friends, boost your social skills, and open your eyes to a whole new world.

There are dozens of reasons why you should volunteer in our community - you just need to find the one that feels right. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please email info@sawcreek.org. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Thank you to everyone for making a significant impact within our community - regardless of the circumstances we face.

# The Safety Spot

#### CYBER-21 and Stranger Things

by Frank Dendulk, Safety Committee Member

A paradigm shift in how we communicate and function in modern society has made our cyber connectivity more and more important. With this, the frequency of social media accounts and/or email getting hacked is on the rise. Yes, it happens. Sorry for you if you've been attacked recently.

And yes, it can happen to anyone. Having twice been the victim of identity theft (in the ante-computer era), I can truly sympathize with those now stung.

Yet questions arise. How did your account get hacked? Was it a break-in, or did you open your door when cyber bandits came knocking?

Nowadays, hackers get credited much too easily! Often when someone says, "My Facebook got hacked," they mean, "I clicked on a link from an unknown source and welcomed a virus into my computer." That virus may send out invasive and offensive emails, messages, etc. to your entire contact list seeing if it can replicate itself. You have become a cyber-virus carrier!

Worse, many hackers get you to voluntarily offer up your own sensitive personal information. If you are ever asked for your password, consider it a red flag. Never give passwords!

Really nasty viruses have been given a name. They're called RATs — an acronym for Remote Access Trojans. RATs can take over your computer without you knowing it, giving a hacker complete access and control. Stealing passwords and screenshots are only the start of how they can hurt you. Stranger things have happened. Welcome to the Upside Down!

So how do you stay safe from digital viruses? Stay safe by utilizing the same methods that prevent biological viruses from spreading. Take the precautions for COVID-19 and apply them to CYBER-21.

First, wear your cybersecurity mask to avoid viruses! It doesn't matter who the email, text message, or social media post claims to be from, DO NOT CLICK ON ANY EMBEDDED LINK UNLESS YOU ARE 100% SURE IT'S SAFE! Read that last sentence again. Say it out loud. Post it on top of your screen so you see it every time you log on. Clicking links is like taking your mask off.

Second, wash your digital hands regularly. In addition to antivirus software, utilize cleaning tools on all your devices. Keep malware programs up to date. Clean your cache. Regularly dump your temp files. Selectively delete cookies. Browse in private mode. The vast number of users who turn off built-in security programs astounds me!

When was the last time you cleaned the data in your phone? For too many of us, the answer becomes a question: "What? I should clean my phone's data too?" Yes, wash up!

Third, keep good company. Educate your network contacts about staying

safe online. When your contacts stay diligent, the likelihood they'll pass a virus to you is decreased.

The viruses that hackers spread are like computer VD. The best way to avoid cyber STDs (Social-media Transmitted Diseases) is abstinence. Accordingly, do not make yourself an easy target. Much more than your reputation may be at stake!

Avert the need for digital antibiotics or a computer MD. Take a lesson from Stranger Things: "Don't be stupid!" Do not click unknown links. Following this one rule will protect you more than many expensive computer vaccines.



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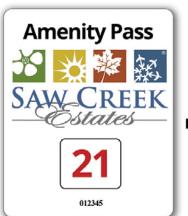
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## The Cristina Primrose Team

#### Saw Creek **Home Sales**

- Currently Listed: 28 homes as of April 1, 2021
- Pending Settlement: 43 homes as of April 1, 2021
- Total Sold in past 12 months: 226 homes

Information provided by the Pocono Mountain Assoc. of Realtors

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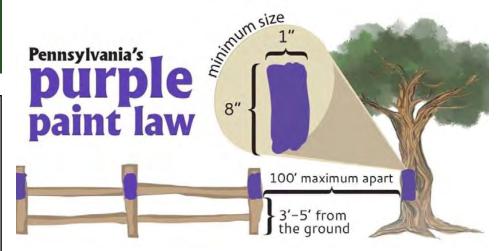
## **Know the Rules** Signage/Flags/Banners

by the Rules Committee

The Rules and Regulations document is a constantly evolving document, and is usually updated within days of a rule being changed or removed, as approved by the Board of Directors. Most recently, on page 10, Rule E: Signage/Flags/Banners was updated to read:

Non-Quality of Life signs, flags, and/or banners of any kind, configuration, or material (e.g., "Private Property," "No Trespassing," yard signs, "Garage Sale," "For Sale," political, contractor, personal - "Elvis Avenue," etc.) are not permitted. Only "Quality of Life" signs that affect the health and safety of our owners may be posted: Alarm, Beware of Dog, etc. Seasonal flags (winter, spring, summer, falls), sports teams flags, and patriotic flags (e.g., national, state, and military) and/ or banners are also permitted. No more than three (3) flags and/ or banners allowed on a property, which must be affixed to either a deck or home with flag brackets or a permanently installed ground flagpole; no free-standing or makeshift flag and/or banner displays on the property. The flag and/or banner has to match the aesthetics of the property, e.g., the size of flag and/or banner must be proportionally scaled to the size of the flag bracket or flagpole. Tier 2 Offense Amended February 2021

Many Saw Creek homeowners have expressed concern over how to protect their property from the threat of trespassing while still being compliant with SCE rules, especially since State Police will not investigate claims of trespassing unless No Trespassing signs are posted. Starting in 2020, the State Police will also respond to trespassing claims if your property is marked with special purple paint.



This new law, called the Purple Paint Law, went into effect in all of Pennsylvania (except for Philadelphia and Allegheny counties) and will greatly help homeowners with this concern. You can read about the law here and the instructions for using the Purple Paint: https://www.pgc.pa.gov/HuntTrap/ <u>Law/Pages/Purple-Paint-Law.aspx</u>. One caveat: The Purple Paint is a special paint which can be used on trees without harming them. You can check with hardware stores or online for the special Purple Paint.

Stay safe everyone!

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# **Looking for Saw Creek News Contributors**

by Amelia Battipaglia, Communications Assistant

The Saw Creek Estates Community Association is looking for homeowners to participate in contributing to the Saw Creek News by joining the Public Information Committee. 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 in the community and 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! Being part of the newspaper and sharing your voice is a great way to participate and stay connected in the community.

The Public Information Committee 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 News, please reach out. We want to hear from you!

#### To apply for committee membership, grab an application at the MSO or go to 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.



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# **Heroes Among Us - Right Here in our Own Community!**



Continued from page 1...

the Light of the World Church, it focused on the church members. With Ida's leadership as president of the board and director of the day-to-day operation of the pantry, and as the need grew, Ida contacted Second Harvest Food Bank that serves smaller food banks across the nation. With tireless work from Ida and many volunteers, the Pantry has fed over 1,352 families in Monroe/ Pike Counties where the pantry now receives additional donations from the Salvation Army, Walmart, Panera Bread, and local supermarkets.

When Bushkill Outreach Program and Pantry was going to close, Jo's Pantry looked at possibly continuing their food distribution to families in need. Although Bushkill Outreach decided to continue to operate, in 2017, Ida drove the decision to set Jo's Pantry up as a 501c3; and, Ida has been the driving force behind the growth of the pantry ever since. Initially the pantry distributed food only at their Minisink location. Recently they added a new location within the Saw Creek Estates Community. This location has now been open for a year with 19 volunteers who have fed more than 368 families.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ida saw a steep increase in requests for food assistance. She saw the need to bring some perishable and non-perishable food items from Jo's Outreach into Saw Creek Estates so the members can come and get food for themselves, their neighbors and/or their families. For many people, this has been the first time that they have ever sought help to feed their families.

Clearly, the pandemic brought new challenges with stories of lost jobs, grandparents taking in grandchildren and countless instances of not having enough food for all. With these being truly unprecedented and heartbreaking times, Ida began leading the distribution of food and essentials during the pandemic, which included Thanksgiving baskets, bread, holiday turkeys and hams. With Ida's continued hard work, volunteering and leadership, Jo's Outreach has served over an additional 200 households.

Thank you, Dee, Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Minton, and Ida Mathew, for your unselfish acts with serving our community!

"The reward of a thing well done is to have done it." —Ralph Waldo Emerson

#### **LEFT: Ida Mathew and Laura Farrell**

BELOW: Ida is recognized for her Community Impact Hero Award by State Representative Rosemary Brown, members of the Saw Creek BOD, Management Team and her family.



# **Heroes Among Us -**Right Here in our Own **Community!**



ABOVE: Darcie Ackerman, Award Recipient Dee Leone and State Rep Rosemary Brown

**BELOW: Jessica VanDerVliet, Director of Community Relations;** Darcie Ackerman; and Elijah Jones, General Manager





ABOVE: Darcie Ackerman, Aquatics & Fitness Supervisor and Award Recipient Dee Leone

BELOW: Award Recipients Dee Leone and Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Minton



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# **Highlights of Saw Creek Estates | A Fond Farewell Board of Directors Meetings**

#### January, February & March 2021

As a service to our members, and on behalf of the Board of Directors. here is a brief informal report of the monthly Board of Director's meetings. Below you will find some of the highlights of the January 9, February 13, and March 13, 2021 meetings.

#### January 9, 2021

- Board approved new Rental Policy as recommended by the Short Term Rental Committee as well as extended the charter for the committee until December 31, 2021
- Board approved the rollover of funds from 2020 to 2021 for the purchase of a Public Safety Vehicle as well as approved a Budget Change Request for overage of the 6% usage fee for the purchase of snow guns in the amount of \$2,170.00 to be funded from Reserves.
- Two proposed rules were forwarded to the Rules and Regulations Committee for reviews and recommendation, and one Proposed Bylaw was forwarded for vetting by the Adhoc Bylaw Committee and association counsel.
- Board authorized conversion all non-compliant Saw Creek owned investments to comply with SCE bylaws.

#### February 13, 2021

- The General Manager announced that Saw Creek was recognized by CAI as a Community of Excellence.
- Gate House project is ongoing and a training video for members should be available in April.
- The Board approved additional funding for the compactor generator through the capital budget.
- Two proposed rule changes were approved which affect rules around property damage and signage. A copy of the rules and regulations can be found in the resource center at www.sawcreek.org

#### March 13, 2021

- Ida Mathew was awarded Red Cross Hero Award for her work with Joe's pantry and assisting our community members during the past year's pandemic. Lifeguard Dee Leone and homeowners Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Minton were also honored by Red Cross for performing life saving techniques for CPR.
- It was announced that Board and Committee meetings can be in person again after April 1 in the Creek Room with a capacity of up to 12 people. Zoom will continue to be utilized.
- Guest Badge restrictions will continue until updated guidelines are received from CDC or **PRPS**
- Contracts were awarded for road paving, TOW deck staining, ski lift painting, and fencing for the compactor areas.



After 11 years of service to Saw Creek Estates, Director of Operations, Jim Andrews, has announced his retirement as of April 30, 2021.

Jim began his long career at Saw Creek Estates in 2010 when he joined the team as the Director of Public Safetv. During his tenure with Public Safety. Jim brought many positive changes to the department, including restructuring, increased training programs, and a strong focus on customer service and community policing.

The consummate team player, it was no surprise when Jim was promoted in 2017 to Director of Operations, overseeing the Public Safety and Maintenance Departments, Information Technology, and Compliance and Project Management. Jim was up to the challenge, and through his determination and oversight, Jim created a



cohesive team, improving operations throughout the community.

Employees have referred to Jim as "tough but fair," a trait he most likely developed during his extensive prior law enforcement career.

Best wishes for a very happy retirement Jim. Thank you for everything you've done for the Saw Creek community.



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#### **STAY INFORMED...**

# **Rental Policy Updates**

We have updated our Rental Policy for the Association. This new Rental Policy goes into effect on April 1, 2021. If you are currently renting out your home (long or short term) or are considering renting, it is important that you review this policy in its entirety to ensure you are compliant.

#### Some key changes in the Rental Policy include but are not limited to:

- A Member who lives outside of a 15-mile radius of the property they rent out in Saw Creek Estates must designate an agent, broker or other individual or firm located within a 15-mile radius to perform tenant acquisitions, screening, approval, or processing services. An Agent Form is available in the Resource Center online.
- Escalation of Tiers and Citations. If an owner is cited for four of the same offenses within a 12-month period, the fifth offense will yield a citation in the next Tier and any subsequent offenses issued will be escalated through the next highest Tier.

Download the latest version of the Rental Policy in the Resource Center on our website, or send a request to <u>rentals@sawcreek.org</u>.

#### **Short Term Rental Ad-Hoc Committee Announcement**

The Short-Term Rental Committee is excited to announce that it has been extended through the end of 2021. In addition, the committee's charter has been updated to help serve the community in a greater capacity. Going forward, community members may contact the short-term rental committee with questions, concerns or recommendations as they relate to short term rentals. This includes homeowners who may have concerns over a specific rental.

Our goal is to help improve the community by acting as a bi-partisan mediator for residents impacted by a short-term rental situation. We intend to achieve this through community-wide education campaigns and by providing solutions to help resolve specific concerns.

**Are you interested in getting involved with the committee?** We are looking for a member in good standing to join us for the remainder of 2021. Please submit completed applications to <a href="mailto:memberservices@sawcreek.org">memberservices@sawcreek.org</a>.

#### Winter Fun!

#### by Renee Hojnowski, Program and Event Coordinator

Our beloved furry friends started the year off with our annual Dog Licensing event. Thirty-three dogs were licensed this year with the help of John Gilpin who visits Saw Creek at the VIP complex every January. If you were unable to attend and still need a license, you can obtain one online at <u>padoglicense</u>. <u>com</u>. All dogs three months or older must have a license in order to avoid any fines.

On Saturday, February 13, we held our annual Winterfest. Over 200 outdoor lovers enjoyed the winter fun. The day started off quite cold as our racers withstood the 17° temperatures. Twelve brave souls skied or snowboarded down the slope in the hope that they would be the winner of a gold medal.

We had sledding races in which our participants were given a participation ribbon and a free hot pretzel. There was a dance contest, a tug of war game and a parachute game. Music provided by our favorite DJ Manny filled the air, while everyone was visited by a couple of penguins and a balloon snowman.

The children had fun at the snow game area where they had a fantastic time trying to toss snowballs, ring an antler on the reindeer or knock down the snowman cans. Some had a blast decorating the snow with rainbow spray art. There were free hot dogs, cupcakes, hot chocolate, toys, take home crafts and balloon twisting. Multiple pictures were taken all day long showing off a fantastic day that was shared by so many.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with Winterfest, from our racing timers to craft and food handlers and to those that helped create the wonderful snow games. We thank you all.

And to end our first quarter, the old classic movie, "Frozen" was shown in the indoor tennis courts and enjoyed by our movie fans.

There are many events scheduled throughout the year that require help from volunteers. The recreation committee would love to have you join them in helping to create a special day for all to remember.

Watch for our Eblasts that will inform you of what events are coming up and what type of help is needed for each. Mark your calendars for the events like our Easter Egg Hunt, outdoor concerts, and Community Day to name a few. See you soon!

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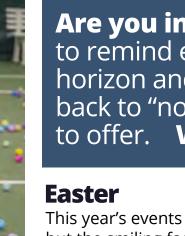












Are you in one of these photos? We just wanted to remind everyone that better days are on the horizon and it won't be too long before we are back to "normal". Enjoy all that our community has to offer. We LOVE living here!

This year's events may look a little different than those we've had in the past but the smiling faces of our residents remain consistent.











## **Swimming and Painting**











# **Community Clean-up**

Some things may have changed, but the dedication of our volunteers remain unwavering! Hope you will join the SCE Men's Club and the Recreation Department this year at our community wide Spring Clean-up event on 4/24/21.







We thank J. Lewis and P. Mackey for their photo contributions

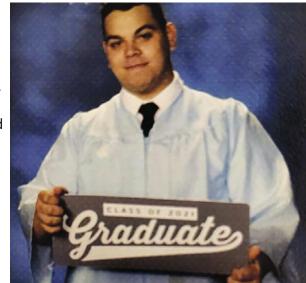
#### **Proud Momma Moment**

My Dearest Shane,

Words cannot begin to describe how proud I am of you. From the very moment I looked into those blue eyes 18 years ago, I knew I was blessed with an angel. I watched you grow and experience some struggles, yet we

You were a very shy boy, yet you had a smile that could brighten anyone's day. Over the years you became such a kind-hearted, fun loving and respectful son.

During the early years when you entered Lehman Intermediate, I saw you come out of your shell. You began to participate in school activities such as choir, football and musical theater. You did an amazing job when you performed in the musicals Shrek, Beauty and the Beast and Seussical. Watching you on stage, I used to say to myself, "What a special young man he is becoming."



At the age of 15, when you decided to get your lifeguard certification, I was even more proud. Once you got this certification, you became a Saw Creek lifeguard and did your job well. You were a great team player. Becoming a lifeguard lead you to join the North High School swim team. In your first year on the team, you won the boys 200 yard and freestyle relay and received a medal. This experience ignited you to continue with swimming as well as being in the men's choir.

As you are now approaching the end of your senior year, you have been accepted to Point Park University in Pittsburgh with a full four-year scholarship. My heart has become so overwhelmed with joy and emotion. Even with your busy schedule you maintained honor roll status which made it possible to receive this scholarship. What an amazing job you have done.

There are only a few months left before you start this new chapter and I gotta say, I'm going to miss you! You have always been my "go to guy," my voice of reason. You kept me together on the days when I felt tired or discouraged. You always made me feel like everything was going to be ok. You were literally the calm to my storm.

Thank you so much Shane for being such an amazing son and wonderful brother. Shane Daniel Montalvo, you reach for the stars. Know that I will always be by your side and just a phone call away. I love you more then you will ever know. I am very honored to be your Mom. I wish you all the success and happiness in the world.

You've got this, Shane!

Love you always & forever, Mom



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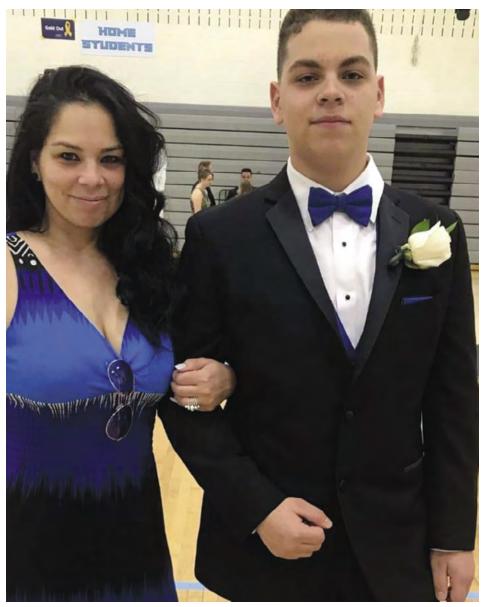
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Are you a parent who would like to have their child recognized in our community newspaper? Maybe they achieved a significant accomplishment that deserves some recognition. Please contact PIC at <u>pic@sawcreek.org</u> for more information.



#### **Saw Creek Lots Selling Quickly** TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT OFFER **BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**

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 at price of \$7,500 each. The price is not negotiable and subject to all standard real estate transfer terms, conditions and fees. For more information please contact the Member Services Office at 570-588-9329 or email memberservices@sawcreek.org. Price and availability are subject to change so act now!

No.	Lot Address	Status
1	0007-0250 Cherry Ridge Road	. Available
2	0027-0260 Park Court	. Available
3	0030-0260 Park Court	. Available
4	0035-0250 Clifton Drive	
5	0044-0260 Cherry Ridge Road	
6	0188-0230 Decker Road	
7	0199-0220 Decker Road	
8	0239-0220 Ansted Court	. Available
9	0273-0210 Saunders Court	
10	0699-0120 Regent Road	. Available
11	0747-0130 Cornwall Place	. Available
<del>12</del>	0748-0130 Cornwall Place	.Sold
13	0777-0130 Regent Street	. Available
14	0970-0140 Canterbury Road	. Available
15	1050-0150 Canterbury Road	
16	1159-0160 Salisbury Road	. Available
17	1258-0180 Winchester Way	

Look for our new "LOT FOR SALE" signs

# SAW CREEK FOR SA

Lot: 123 Sec:4



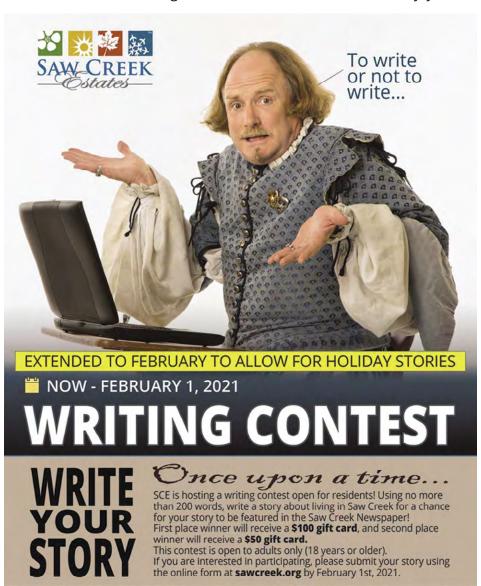
18	1396-0010 St Andrews Drive	Available
19	1521-0080 Woodbridge Drive East	Available
20	1522-0080 Woodbridge Drive East	
21	1642-0070 Woodbridge Drive East	
22	1710-0060 Woodbridge Drive East	
23	1740-0060 Ludlow Court	
24	1741-0060 Ludlow Court	
<del>25</del>	1791-0050 Winsford Way	Sold
26	1824-0050 Brentwood Drive	Available
27	1842-0050 Brentwood Drive	Available
28	1981-0030 Manchester Drive	Available
29	2035-0030 Brentwood Drive	Available
30	2036-0030 Brentwood Drive	Available
31	2049-0270 Scarborough Way	Available
32	2054-0270 Scarborough Way	Available
33	2142-0280 Scarborough Way	Available
34	2193-0300 St Andrews Drive	
35	2224-0300 Bellingham Drive	Available
<del>36</del>	2251-0300 Bellingham Drive	Sold
37	2361-0310 Southport Drive	Available
38	2722-0190 Radcliff Road	Available
39	2723-0190 Decker Road	Available
40	2745-0190 Radcliff Road	
41	2768-0190 Decker Road	Available
<del>42</del>	3012-032a Braintree Court	
43	3018-032a Braintree Court	
44	3050-0330 Alford Court	
45	3057-0330 Alford Court	
<del>46</del>	3112-0330 St Ives Court	
<del>47</del>	3136-0330 Dunchurch Drive	
<del>48</del>	3331-0350 Prestwick Lane	
<del>49</del>	3332-0350 Prestwick Lane	
<del>50</del>	3335-0350 Prestwick Lane	
<del>51</del>	3367-0350 Yorkshire Lane	
<del>52</del>	3382-0350 Brighton Drive	
53	3436-0360 Kirkham Road	
<del>54</del>	3498-0370 Bedford Drive	
55	3500-0370 Bedford Drive	
<del>56</del>	3506-0370 Bedford Drive	
<del>57</del>	3521-0370 Bedford Court	
58	3573-0370 Decker Road	
59	3586-0370 Kensington Drive	Available



# **Saw Creek Fall Writing Contest**

by Jessica M. VanDerVliet, Director of Community Relations and **Amelia Battaglia, Communications Assistant** 

As the weather turned colder, the SCE staff thought it was a wonderful time to introduce a writing contest for our residents to participant in. We advertised in the weekly eblasts and included in our monthly bulletin. We would like to thank all of those who participated in this contest and hope that we can drum up some more participation, if we should decide to do this in the future. To the right are the winners of the contest!! Enjoy!





#### **First Place Winner** Author: A. Fox

Once upon a time, a little fox was snitching around the forest. It was a warm fall day. Colorful leaves rustled softly. The fox ran to the stone. Warm golden rays of the sun fell on her cute face, so she closed her eyes for a second. She ran into the shadow of a huge house which was located near a beautiful Mill pond. Nature was tranquil and peaceful. Several birds of exceptional beauty swept over the fox. A fox tried to catch one, but the bird was faster. Then, a fox heard a rustle in the bushes nearby. She clung to the ground and quietly crept under the porch. She was not afraid. Nothing bad had ever happened to her in this place. But in the wildlife, it never hurt to be careful. A minute later, a deer came up to the house. He calmly walked through the backyard, nibbling either grass or some roots, and went down to the pond. Everything was quiet and peaceful again. The fox got out from under the porch and went to the stream to drink water. She felt safe. She felt calm. She felt protected.

#### **Second Place Winner** Author: T. Lippold

Once upon a time of strife, My daughter and I so needed life. Creeks and trees and mountains galore. Nature's beauty and so much more. Safe and serene, peace and joy Better than cookies "Chips A'hoy" Experiencing a life we never had Like astronomy, canoeing, camp .. SO GLAD! Memories of bonfires and s'mores All generously provided an open door

To conversations and greetings,

Meeting our neighbors with friends.

Providing memories that will last a lifetime without end.

Sunny Sundays, "or is it Tuesday", we really don't know.

We get to play in the sand or in the snow.

We made our first sand volcano and threw rocks and acorns in the lake Learning our density lesson, will it sink or float, next to a SNAKE! Don't forget holidays in our backyard,

Where we "trunk or treat", have carnivals and greet.

Friends and extended family love it here too,

We lay out and swim, eat and drink at the pool.

Funnel cake, tiki bar "where are you guys at"?

As I post on Facebook with my latest snacks.

All in my huge backyard that extends a few miles away.

All of this I enjoy in SAW CREEK each and every day.





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Call Public Safety at (570) 588-5151 if you find the dumpster inoperable.



# **Free Dog Training Program** with University of Pets

by David I. Henon, Saw Creek Critters



When I was planning this event, I was asked sev-

eral times, "Are you sure you want to hold it the beginning of March? It's going to be cold." My response was that if Covid taught us anything, it is to be resilient to cold

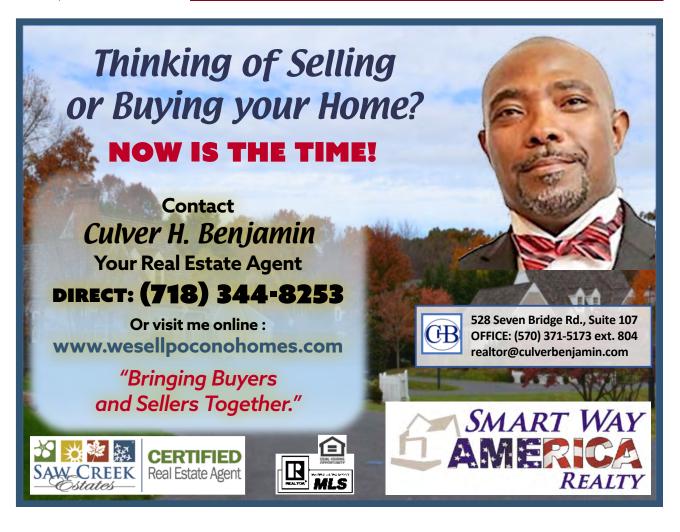
weather and doing things outside.

I wanted to have it as soon as possible, as all the holiday and Covid puppies were starting to show unwanted behavior. It was great to see all the folks who came out and braved one of the coldest days of the season!

We had seven dogs at the VIP pavilion. We went over basic obedience and how it can help solve behavior issues. I went around and asked folks what their biggest challenge was, because, most likely, someone else was having the same issue. I then answered questions on a one-toone basis and we had a little puppy play with socialization.

We also discussed the AKC Canine Good Citizen program (www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen), pet-related discounts on your homeowners policy and your dog becoming a therapy dog.

I made a promise to have another event in warmer weather. Stay tuned to Saw Creek Estates media for the date. Woof!





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At Pennsylvania American Water, we're committed to providing our customers with safe, reliable water service. This requires investing in our treatment and distribution systems. In 2021 and 2022, Pennsylvania American Water plans to invest approximately \$5.8 million to upgrade our water treatment and storage systems to continue providing our Saw Creek Estates customers continue with clean, safe, and reliable service.

#### SAW CREEK TREATMENT SYSTEMS \$4.5 million

#### Wells 2 and 3 Treatment

These wells contain elevated manganese and iron values in the raw water and are naturally occurring minerals from the rock surrounding the wells. The current treatment process continues to meet drinking water quality standards, however, customers occasionally experience discolored water from the manganese. Pennsylvania American Water plans to construct a new treatment facility with an iron and manganese removal filtration system to physically remove the iron and manganese from the water. A new treatment building will be constructed along Snowdon Drive; the current well building on Decker Road will be removed. Design and permitting is scheduled for 2021 and construction will start in late 2021 and continue through 2022.

#### Well Buildings 4/5 and 9/10A

Pennsylvania American Water plans to construct new treatment facilities to replace the existing buildings. Treatment for Wells 4 and 5 will move to a new building at the Well 4 site; a new treatment building will be construct at the site of



Well 10A for Wells 9 and 10. The project is currently in design, with construction planned for early 2022.

#### **SAW CREEK TANK REPLACEMENT** \$1.3 million

The company will replace two storage tanks in the Saw Creek Distribution System. The 200,000-gallon Dorchester Water Storage Tank (Saw Creek Tank #4) and 175,000-gallon Rigby Water Storage Tank (Saw Creek Tank #5) will be replaced with new steel storage tanks. The Rigby Tank (Saw Creek Tank #5) will be replaced with a 200,000-gallon tank, increasing storage capacity. Construction on the new tanks is scheduled to begin in spring 2021.



02-2021

# **Saw Creek Hot Tub Safety Rules**

by Darcie Ackerman, Aquatic and Fitness Supervisor

Many residents and guests have questions about the new hot tub rules. I say new, but in reality the rules have been around a while. For years, Saw Creek reserved hot tub use for those 16 and older, then our rules aligned with rules on fair housing. We currently permit unaccompanied guests ages 12 and up and guests ages 6-11 with a parent or guardian who is 18 or older.

There have been many complaints about the new rules. There are adults who don't believe children should be in at all. We have parents who do not appreciate having to go in with their child. Now we add in a pandemic and there are even more complaints about children being in the hot tub, especially because now it has a three-person limit.

Children aged 6-11 are only permitted in the hot tub with an adult guardian. This part of the rule is so that the parents feel the heat on their body and understand what their children are feeling. Parents should guide their children on proper hot tub etiquette while they are in there. Children should not be swimming or playing in the hot tub and they should not be putting their head underwater.

#### **Hot Tub Safety Tips**

Here are some recommendations from the Pool and Hot Tub Alliance (PHTA) [https://www.phta.org/safety/public-safety/hot-tub-safety]

- Infants and toddlers should not be permitted in a hot tub at all as babies> thin skin makes them more susceptible to overheating. Also, since little ones have very little control over bodily functions, spas become unsanitary almost instantly when accidents happen.
- No young child should be allowed in a hot tub until they can stand on the bottom and have their head remain completely out of the water. Children who are big enough to be in a hot tub should not use it for more than five minutes at a time, especially at the maximum temperature of 104 degrees. Dropping the spa temperature to 98 degrees would allow for longer soaks – but never more than 15 minutes at a time. It is also recommended that young children avoid full body immersion, choosing instead to sit on jump seats that some spas have that permit waist-high immersion.
- All persons, and especially young children, should be encouraged to drink fresh water while they're soaking. If the bather feels sick to their stomach, dizzy and/or sleepy, they should exit the spa immediately.
- Responsible Adult Supervision is Key to Child Pool, Hot Tub Safety and Water Safety. There should always be an adult designated to maintain constant visual contact with children whenever they are near, or could get near, any body of water.

Saw Creek hot tubs are kept at the recommended temperature of 102-104 degrees. Parents should be very cautious of letting children enter the hot tub. In the end, it is the parents' decision after weighing the risks and benefits.

**Not so fun fact:** Children love to play with the foam that forms in a hot tub. I have watched them smear it all over their faces and bodies. Remember, that foam is made up of **sweat**, **lotions**, **dirt**, **perfumes and deodorants**.



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#### Women's Club News

by Ginni Cozzi, Women's Club President

A warm welcome (it's 21° today with wind chill of about 14°) to all of our new neighbors in Saw Creek. As I drive around our community, I see many homes that have been empty or inactive starting to come alive again, and that is such a great thing to see.

Many homes are getting facelifts and some, complete renovations. It is great to see our community growing and thriving after a very difficult year.

It is the sincere hope of the Saw Creek Women's Club that many of the new women moving here will consider joining us for the fun and friendship we have brought to Saw Creek for over twenty years.

The Women's Club usually meets the first Thursday of every month at 12:30 p.m. in the Mountain Room at the Top of the World Complex 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 April and get back to normal. Come join us!



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# **Saw Creek Estates Contact Information**

BOARD OF DIRECTOR	<b>SCEBOD@SawCreek.org</b>
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Vice-President	Bill Montgomery
Treasurer	Patricia Kirby
Secretary	Peggy Gottschau
Members	James Hidalgo, Debra Wulff,
	John Graham, Art Kalpin, Jack Burchill

#### **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

General Manager	Elijah Jones	elijah@sawcreek.org
Director of Operations	Jim Andrews	jim@sawcreek.org
Director of Public Safety	Anton Toryak	publicsafety@sawcreek.org
Human Resources Manager	Melanie Voiles	hr@sawcreek.org
Director of Community Relations	Jessica VanDerVliet	jessica@sawcreek.org
Asst. Director of Operations	Nicolas Hutta	violations@sawcreek.org
Director of Finance & Admin	Martha Almanza	martha@sawcreek.org

#### **COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS**

Appeals	Norda Calder	appeals@sawcreek.org
Beautification	Peter McCaffery	beautification@sawcreek.org
Building & Architectural	Peter Derrenbacher	maintenance@sawcreek.org
Finance	Donna Mahmood	finance@sawcreek.org
Nominating	Ida Mathew	nominating@sawcreek.org
Public Information	TBD	pic@sawcreek.org
Recreation	Karen Chirillo	reccommittee@sawcreek.org
Rules & Regulations	M.J. Stiglianorules	sandregulations@sawcreek.org
Safety	Frank Krzeszowski	safety@sawcreek.org

## **Men's Club News**

by Joseph Doe, Men's Club Secretary

#### Please Support the Saw Creek Men's Club Scholarship Fund Drive!

Each year, the Saw Creek Men's Club conducts a Scholarship Fund Drive to collect funds for the sole purpose of providing three scholarships to selected senior high school students who are residents of Saw Creek Estates and attending East Stroudsburg North High School, who have submitted an application (including a composition) for consideration. Candidates are evaluated by the East Stroudsburg North High School faculty, and recipients are determined by the faculty.

In the Spring of 2020, COVID-19 prevented our club from collecting contributions at the gates, but Saw Creek Men's Club still awarded three \$1,000 scholarships from our diminished Scholarship Fund. Saw Creek Men's Club will not be collecting at the gates in 2021 for the Scholarship Fund Drive.

We hope that our new approach will enable our Saw Creek community to continue their generous support of this worthy award program. These scholarships are dependent upon the generosity of our Saw Creek community.

The Saw Creek Men's Club has utilized an available internet-based service provider, GIVEBUTTER, to enable our new fundraising method. The easiest way to make a donation to this scholarship fund, is to open the camera ap-

plication on your smart phone, and aim at the QR code (Quick Reference Code) shown at the right >, and follow the invitation to the web-based donation page. (https://www.GiveButter.com/tZMZ4i)

There you can make any donation you like, and pay with a variety of options such as PayPal, Credit Card, VENMO, or personal check (mailing instruction are provided). There will be a modest credit card processing fee added to your donation.



Please note: GIVEBUTTER predetermines a suggested tip and includes it in your charge. This tip is optional and does not benefit the scholarship fund. The tip can be modified at the donor's discretion, giving the donor full control of this element. Whatever tip is specified and approved by you goes directly to the GIVEBUTTER.COM website company.

The Saw Creek Men's Club is hopeful that you will embrace this revised methodology, and we thank you for your continued support and generosity!

If you wish to make a donation via check for this purpose, make checks payable to 'Saw Creek Men's Club.' In the memo area put: 'Scholarship Fund' and mail to Bill Montgomery, 2124 Glasgow Drive, Bushkill PA 18324.



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# **Operations Department News**

#### by Nicolas Hutta, Assisstant Director of Operations

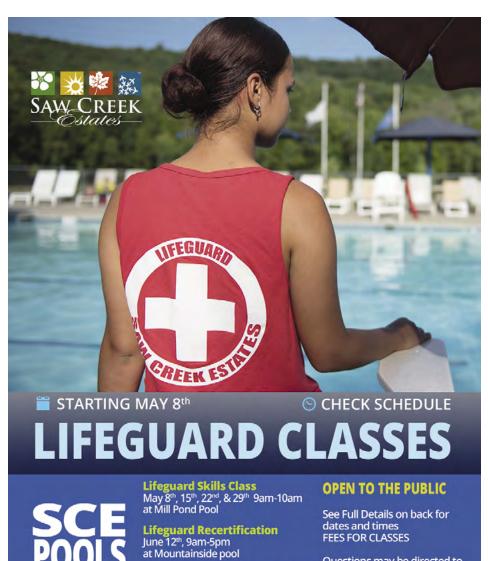
With spring in the air, our Maintenance Crew is on the roads. Our Mainte $nance\,Crews\,will\,be\,out\,fixing\,potholes, damaged\,roads, shoulders, drainage$ swales, culvert pipes, and branches hanging into the roads. If you see an area of concern, please reach out via email to servicerequest@sawcreek.org to report an issue.

This article is intended to supply some safety tips when traveling Saw Creek roadways (and traveling in work zones in general).

- First: The community speed limit is 25 mph.
- Expect the unexpected in road construction zones
- Slow down, be alert and pay attention to the posted signs.
- Comply with the directions given by the flagger.
- Be patient in road construction zones.
- Slow down don't drive too fast for conditions.
- Drive defensively don't follow too close.
- Expect delays. Plan for them and leave early.







**Lifeguard Certification Class** 

June 11<sup>th</sup> 4pm-8pm , 12<sup>th</sup> 9am-8pm & 13<sup>th</sup> 9am-8pm at Mountainside Pool

#### Lifeguard Skills Class

\$30 (payment due by May 5)

5/8, 5/15, 5/22 & 5/29, 9am-10am

This class is to help participants get ready to take the Lifeguard Certification Class. Front crawl and breaststroke will be practiced and polished, as well as treading skills. The hour will be spent getting participant's endurance for swimming to a level that will make the necessary 300 yards for lifeguarding a breeze. Classes will be held at Mill Pond Pool.

## **Lifeguard Recertification Classes\***

\$75 (payment due by May 5) 6/12, 9am -5pm (payment is due 4 days ahead of class)

Know someone who needs to update their lifeguard certification? Saw Creek is offering two Lifeguard Recertification Classes. You need only attend one of the days. Classes will be held at the Mountainside outdoor pool.

\*Certification may not be more than 30 days expired

#### **Lifeguard Certification Class**

\$100 (payment due by June 7)

6/11, 4pm-8pm

6/12, 9am-8pm

6/13, 9am-8pm

Classes will be held at Mountainside pool.

For regular lifeguard certification you need to swim 300 yards continuously and 100

yards for shallow water lifeguard. Candidates may swim using the front crawl, breast stroke, or a combination of both demonstrating proper breath control. You must be able to tread water using only your legs for 2 minutes and complete a timed event. You must also be able to exit the pool without using a ladder or steps.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** 

Questions may be directed to Darcie@sawcreek.org

www.sawcreek.ORG

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

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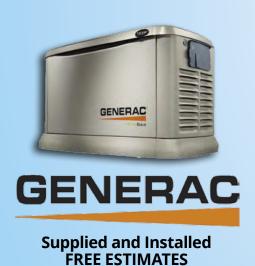
















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