I must tell you that with the holiday scheduling of the printing company my message is being written on December 8. With that in mind here's hoping that everyone had a fabulous holiday season and a fantastic beginning to the new year. I also wish that the weather is still as great as when I wrote this column.

Our holiday party was a smashing success and the work that the ladies put in was nothing short of perfection! Everybody had a good time and the clubhouse ballroom looked exquisite. I thank the committee for their labor of love.

Evergreen's annual meeting was December 7 and only two people committed to the four trustee positions up for election. We are asking for resumes and hopefully some residents will step forward to give us a full complement of board members.

I had a chat with a friend and he was saddened by the apparent growth of apathy here at Evergreen. Unfortunately we are losing volunteers and not enough people are willing to replace them. You know that for some of our older residents, Bingo and the monthly Active Adults luncheon are being counted on for their way to see each other and socialize.

These events along with travel and social functions are only available because of volunteers. So please get involved...come to the monthly meeting, meet your new neighbors and possibly find an activity that you can help out with.

If it hasn't already happened by the time you read this, snow and ice are inevitable this time of year. Keep in mind the car removal policy that's in place when it snows and remember to tell anybody that will be visiting of said policy. Two inches of snow brings out the plows so all cars must be off the streets or they will be towed. And make sure you have ice melt on hand because, and this has been said more times than I can remember, after the initial snow removal and salting by LMS, your personal sidewalk and driveway are your responsibility if thaw and refreeze occur.
Let me finish by telling the volunteers that we did not forget you. Your appreciation luncheon has been moved from January to April to avoid any possible icy conditions.

The board agrees the risk of broken bones is not worth the stuffed mushrooms.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

...Mike Lawlor

Barbara Bennett did not seek re-election. At the December meeting Lawlor thanked them for their service. Barbara Bennett was a trustee for four years and Linda Montani served for two years. The board will reorganize on January 4 with the necessary changes in the slate of officers.

The 2016 board will consist of Lawlor, Mary C and Saundra King plus Lynn Thornton and Peter Cerra, whose terms, like Lawlor’s expire in December 2016 and two appointed members.

...Don Lippincott

**WHAT’S YOUR ROLE IN CLEARING ICE?**

Following a snow storm, Evergreen’s snow removal contractor is responsible for clearing driveways and walkways on private property in addition to plowing streets.
Under its contract LMS also is responsible for salting driveways and walkway if necessary. But only once, unless another general freeze causes the homeowners association to summon the contractor.

"In between or after storms” states a new board of trustees’ resolution “salting of homeowners’ sidewalks and driveways will be the responsibility of the homeowners.”

Trustee Lynn Thornton said the board decided to adopt the resolution in November to emphasize the homeowners’ responsibility and the limitations of the contractor’s responsibility. She noted and the resolution states that it costs approximately $7,000 each time LMS is called to perform additional work outside the contract.

Trustees have been recommending for years that homeowners keep a container of a melting material on hand in the garage.

The resolution notes that winter storms have exceeded the budgeted amount for snow removal and caused special assessments in recent years, including 2015.

The resolution puts residents on notice that the board “will strictly adhere to the conditions of the contract.”

The board also reminds residents that when snow or ice storms of any amount are forecast, cars must be removed from streets before the storm begins.

Cars left on the streets before snow removal begins will be towed at the owners’ expense. Parking is available in the clubhouse or greenhouse parking lots. It is also residents’ responsibility to inform visitors of this policy.

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**Evergreen at Hamilton**

**On-Site Office**

30 Nightingale Drive
Phone: 609-584-2460
Fax: 609-584-2469

**Donna Styles,** Property Manager

**Email-donnaepm@verizon.net**

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**SIGN FOR SNOW EMERGENCY LIST**

Evergreen residents who have a continuing need to leave their homes for medical treatment or other mandatory purpose should sign up for the snow emergency list so their driveways may be cleared first after a snow storm. Contact Property Manager Donna Styles.
REMOVE DECORATIONS BEFORE JANUARY 15

Outside Christmas/holiday decorations should be removed by January 15, Architectural Committee chairperson Loretta McGlone reminded residents.

She noted that the removal of decorations rule is long established in board policy.

APPRECIATION LUNCH DELAYED UNTIL APRIL

Evergreen’s annual Appreciation Luncheon for volunteer workers will be held in April in 2016 instead of the usual January date.

Homeowners Association President Mike Lawlor said the trustees agreed that it would be better to schedule the affair in the spring to avoid the possibility of severe winter weather.

NEWLON RESIGNS AS POOL HEAD

Charlie Newlon has resigned as Evergreen’s pool chairman and the trustees are asking for volunteers to replace him.

Charlie said he has some health issues and has decided to reduce his heavy schedule of projects. His monthly reports have been a staple of the trustees’ monthly meetings, not only on the pool but on Evergreen’s trees.

A retired forester, Charlie has for several years produced a page on the community’s trees for the Evergreen Post.

Evergreen President Mike Lawlor has asked applicants to contact him or Donna Styles for details on the pool chairman’s duties.
CLUB KNITS FOR VETS AND KIDS

We are happy to report that the Friendship Club is able to present more than 40 lap blankets, hats and scarves to veterans this holiday season. The items are being delivered to the New Jersey Veterans Home in Vineland by members of the Evergreen Veterans Club.

Among the knitted items are several red white and blue patriotic blankets made by our members and most appreciably by Lucy Virgo. She continues to be a major contributor to our mission.

We also have a beautiful collection of hats, mittens and scarves designated for disadvantaged children in this area.

We welcome the return to our club of Judi Nelson and special greetings to new members Joyce Moffett and Ellen Barasch. Iris Blumberg continues to use her spare time to knit at home.

We have collected many greeting cards. They are being distributed to veterans who have received cards to assure them they are not forgotten. We also thank Marie Evans for addressing Christmas cards to the veterans.

Let us share the Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza spirit of love and peace for all.

Julia Tsai
Chairperson

(Editor’s note---Evergreen resident Mary Ann Lombardo reported that the group donated more than 50 hats, scarves and mittens to be distributed to children by the Mercer Friends Food Bank.

“I was really amazed at how lovely all of the items were” she said, “they were made with love in every stitch.” “A great big thank you to all Evergreen residents who have donated to Mercer Friends throughout the year” She said the Friendship Club “has made the holidays a little warmer for many people.”)

LET’S TALK SPORTS

A sports discussion group will meet in the Evergreen clubhouse at 7 pm Wednesday January 6. It will be an opportunity to share your memories, opinions and ideas. There also will be a sports trivia contest.

If you are interested contact former NBC Channel 10 sportscaster Dan Brady at 203-6460 for further details.
BUDGET LOOKING OK SAYS MARY C

Evergreen’s expenses to date are running about the amount budgeted for 2015, with costs only slightly above amounts in the budget, said Treasurer Mary Chludzinski.

For October, the latest month for which all figures have been tallied, income to the Evergreen Homeowners Association totaled $8,3201, while expenses amounted to $81,828 for a net income of $1,373. Income was down sharply from September’s $90,582 because September was the last month for the special snow clearance assessment.

NEW OCCUPANTS FOR 27 HOMES

New residents moved into 27 Evergreen homes from January through November 2015 according to Homeowners Association Trustee Saundra King. Saundra is a member of the community’s welcome committee. There are 418 homes in Evergreen.

Among the latest new residents are:

Johanna Li Mato of 253 Meadowlark Drive and Lois and Michael Braender of 5 Mockingbird Drive.

LOTS OF HO HO HO IN THE CLUBHOUSE

Ho Ho Ho is what we heard at our Old Fashioned Holiday Party on Saturday December 5. A surprise visit from a slightly thinner Santa was just one of the fun things everyone enjoyed.

The clubhouse decorations were beautiful and added to the atmosphere of the holiday. There was great food and lots of dancing and the 86 people attending had a wonderful time. What a beautiful way to start this holiday season!

On February 20 we will hold our own “Mardi Gras”. More information will be listed in the clubhouse as we finalize the evening. Save the date for another evening of fun, food, and friends.

A special “thank you” to the Social Events Committee members for all your hard work in making “An Old Fashioned Holiday” one of the best yet.

Jean Pierfy
ACTIVE ADULTS PROGRAMS SET

The first luncheon meeting of the Active Adults Club for 2016 will be held Thursday January 21 at 12 noon.

All the officers who served in 2015 will be installed at this meeting to serve in 2016. They are Carol Augustyn, president; Dolores Totoroto, vice president; Alice Kaminski, treasurer; and Estelle Scannella, secretary. The slate was nominated at the November meeting and elected in December.

We are also going to have as guest speaker Charles Clarkson, an attorney for the Senior Medicare Patrol of New Jersey. His topic will be Medicare fraud.

Our February meeting will be held on Thursday February 18 at noon. Steinert High School students who are in the cast of their musical “Bye Bye Birdie” will be performing in costume for us. The cost of the luncheons is still $4 per person.

So mark your calendars for these two meeting dates. Also mark your calendars for our Bingo every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. Our turnout for Bingo has been wonderful. Let's keep it up and make it even better.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

…Carol Augustyn
President

ROOF RECOATING RIGHT ON TIME

Evergreen President Mike Lawlor has corrected an Evergreen Post report on new protective coating applied to the roof of the pool building.

It is the glass roof that has a life expectancy of 30 years, he said, not the coating. So the new coating was applied 15 years after the pool was built. The old coating was wearing out after that time. Mike said.

TREES REPLACED

Six trees have been replaced along Evergreen streets by Landscape Maintenance Services, the community’s
landscaper. Five Cleveland pear trees were planted on Canary Way, Hummingbird Drive, Mockingbird Drive and Meadowlark Drive at a cost of $1,750 plus tax.

A Zelkova tree was planted on Hummingbird Drive at a cost of $150 plus tax. In addition two tree stumps were removed at a cost of $150 plus tax. All trees must be replaced when they die or are destroyed under the original community site plan approved by Hamilton Township.

**TRAVEL GROUP PLANS 2016 TRIPS**

After what she called a very successful year, Emily Sciarrotta, with her travel committee, is making plans for 2016.

Detailed plans have been made for a trip to Lancaster’s Sight & Sound Theater on July 28 for a production of “Samson”. Lunch will be at the Family Inn at Bird In Hand PA. The cost is $88 per person and includes bus and gratuity, the show and lunch. A signup sheet is being posted on the clubhouse bulletin board.

The committee is still working on details for a trip to Atlantic City’s Resorts casino in April.

At the trustees’ annual meeting on December 7 Emily described a banner year for travel for Evergreen residents, with at least one trip a month and sometimes two.

In another part of the meeting, Evergreen President Mike Lawlor commended Emily and Evergreen Post Editor Don Lippincott for their work.

**BOTTLES STREWN NEAR ENTRANCE**

Evergreen officials are confronting an old annoyance.

One or more persons keeps tossing empty soft drink bottles on the island strip along Clubhouse Drive.

Trustee Peter Cerra and others said they would try to identify the culprit or culprits. Meanwhile Property Manager Donna Styles keeps picking up the bottles.

**FITNESS CONTRACT**

Evergreen’s trustees have approved a contract with Empire Fitness Services for
preventative maintenance of equipment in the clubhouse exercise room. The one year agreement covers the treadmills, bikes and other machines. The cost is $1,208 plus tax.

When you come to a Stop sign that’s simply what you are supposed to do. In Evergreen some of us obey this important sign. Some of us do not.

As a father of five children and a grandfather of nine, I have stressed to all of them the importance of coming to a complete stop at Stop signs. Here in Evergreen I am sure we all have observed some drivers who blatantly refuse to do this. I urge you, friends and neighbors, to please take a few seconds to obey this law. As they say, the life you save may be your own.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.

Tom Sullivan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank You

We thank the Evergreen community for your love, support and kindness. You have surrounded us with your thoughtfulness and generosity during our difficult time.

Robert was very much aware of the outpouring of love you showed toward him. You made him feel so loved and cared for.

Julia Tsai

And Family

Food Drive Successful

I am happy to report that for our Thanksgiving food drive Evergreen residents donated 16 brown bags filled to the top with non-perishable food items. They also donated $ 261 in cash to the Mercer Friends Food Bank.

Thank you all for your generosity. I would especially like to acknowledge Julia Tsai and Terry and Matt Midura for their ongoing generous cash donations. Participating residents made the holidays a little nicer for
those in need. Also, you have donated 48 items, at this writing, for our Christmas holiday drive.

I wish all of you and your families a safe and happy New Year.

Mary Ann Lombardo
Letters to The Editor may be sent to the
Evergreen Property Manager’s Office or e-mailed to Don Lippincott at:
donem@optonline.net.
Letters not e-mailed should be signed. They should be brief and related to Evergreen. They may be edited.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire---911
Police---911
Ambulance---911
Poison Control---1-800-962-1253
Gas Leak---1-800-962-7734

SERVICE NUMBERS

HAMSTAT-Hamilton
All Offices---586-0311
Verizon Repair---1-800-275-2355
PSE&G---1-800-436-7734
Aqua Water Co.-- 877-987-2782
Cablevision---586-2288
NJ Transit Bus---1-900-772-2222
TRADE Bus---530-1971
Hamilton Post Office---581-7607
Recycling---278-8086

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

News for the March/April issue of the Evergreen Post should be submitted no later than Friday February 12. Please take any news items to the property manager’s office in the clubhouse or e-mail them to Don Lippincott at donem@optonline.net.

WARNING!

WHEN SNOW/ICE STORMS OF ANY AMOUNT ARE FORECAST, CARS MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE STREETS BEFORE THE SNOW BEGINS SO THAT THE ROADS ARE UNOBSERVED FOR PRE-TREATMENT AND PLOWING. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR STORMS THAT MAY OCCUR OVERNIGHT.
CARS LEFT ON THE STREETS BEFORE SNOW REMOVAL BEGINS WILL BE TOWED AT THE OWNER’S EXPENSE. CARS CAN BE PARKED IN THE CLUBHOUSE OR GREENHOUSE PARKING LOTS. THEY MAY ALSO BE PARKED IN YOUR DRIVEWAY, BUT IF THEY ARE NOT REMOVED AFTER THE STREETS ARE CLEARED, YOUR DRIVEWAY MAY NOT BE CLEARED/SALTED.

CARS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE STREETS WHEN ALL THE ROADS ARE CLEARED SO THAT THE PLOWING OF THE PARKING LOTS CAN BE COMPLETED.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM VISITORS AND HEALTH AIDES OF THIS POLICY.

WITH EACH NEW STORM, THE STREETS, COMMON AREAS AND HOMEOWNER SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS WILL BE PLOWED/CLEARED AND SALTED, IF NECESSARY.

IN BETWEEN, OR AFTER STORMS, SALTING OF HOMEOWNER SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS WILL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HOMEOWNER. WE SUGGEST THAT YOU KEEP A SUPPLY OF ICE MELT ON HAND.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.