Dear Shareholders,

May Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mother’s Day and Memorial Day highlight this month in spring. I am quite partial to Memorial Day weekend, as it is the opening of our Pool and the start of our summer events. We are bringing back Pool Aerobics, by popular demand, and all other summer events will be posted before the opening of the pool. Mark your calendars to reserve the dates! Please try to come out to the events to meet and get to know your neighbors.

The Hospitality Committee will host our annual “Meet The Candidates Night” on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the Gazebo. Mark your calendar for this night, because the candidates for our new Board of Directors will come out to speak to the community. If rain is forecasted for that evening, we will send out a call-em-all to the community to announce a rain date.

Later in the month, our Annual Meeting will take place at the Islip Library on May 21, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. Our elections for the 2015 Board of Directors will take place at this time. Our attorneys, accountants and our property manager will be present to report on the state of the Woodlands corporation, and take any relevant general questions. Please bring your proxy and, if you are unable to attend, give your proxy (filled out, signed, and sealed) to a responsible neighbor or to a Board Member. It will be given to our Manager, Lori Vivona, to include in the count.

The Board looks forward to seeing you at all the above dates.

Happy Spring!
Jan Fineman, Woodlands Board President
### Efficiently Donate Used Items

Spring cleaning is right around the corner and, for many of us, that could mean out with the “old” and in with the “new.” But what do we do with the “old” when it’s not quite ready for the landfill? Donating used items is a great option as long as you do a little homework to find out which local organizations and donation centers are most appropriate for the items you’d like to give away. Use the following tips as a guideline for determining what goes where and how to get it there, as well as to whom you might be able to give your items.

- **Many items are eligible for donation.** You might be surprised to learn exactly what items you can donate. In addition to clothing and furniture, cars, cell phones and other electronics, fitness equipment, home appliances—even art supplies and old towels—are widely accepted by specialized organizations. If you’re looking to donate a unique item, or several of the same items in bulk, do some further research about local organizations and donation centers in need of specific things.

- **Consider what shape your items are in to determine where you donate.** If you’re planning to donate a broken refrigerator, make sure the organization is aware the item is in need of repair. Some donation centers accept broken items for parts; however, most organizations and donation centers prefer to accept gently used items in working condition. Be sure to communicate the item’s condition prior to arranging a donation.

- **After choosing where to donate, decide how you’ll get the items to the organization.** Oftentimes large organizations and donation centers are able to arrange a day and time to pick up your unwanted items directly from your home or business. Smaller organizations in need might instead have certain days and times available for you to arrange a drop off at a specified location.

- **Make sure to get a donation receipt for tax purposes.** Before donating, make a detailed list of the items you’ll be giving away along with the estimated values. Keep in mind that, since the items are used, price points might be lower than expected. When your items are picked up or dropped off, request a receipt from the organization or donation center to keep track of what to count as a tax deduction. Speaking with a tax professional for advice also is a good idea.

- **Some organizations that take donations:** Churches, Goodwill (www.goodwill.org/donate-and-shop), Big Brothers/Big Sisters of LI (www.bbbsli.org), United Way, Vietnam Veterans of America (www.pickupplease.org), animal rescue organizations or animal shelters (like Island Rescue - www.islandrescue.net) that take worn towels and blankets.

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Seasonal allergies: Nip them in the bud
Relieve seasonal allergies with these tried-and-true techniques.
By The Mayo Clinic Staff

Spring means flower buds and blooming trees — and if you’re one of the millions of people who have seasonal allergies, it also means sneezing, congestion, runny nose and other bothersome symptoms. Seasonal allergies — also called hay fever and allergic rhinitis — can make you miserable. But before you settle for plastic flowers and artificial turf, try these simple strategies to keep seasonal allergies under control.

Reduce your exposure to allergy triggers
To reduce your exposure to the things that trigger your allergy signs and symptoms (allergens):
• Stay indoors on dry, windy days — the best time to go outside is after a good rain, which helps clear pollen from the air.
• Delegate lawn mowing, weed pulling and other gardening chores that stir up allergens.
• Remove clothes you’ve worn outside; you may also want to shower to rinse pollen from your skin and hair.
• Don’t hang laundry outside — pollen can stick to sheets and towels.
• Wear a dust mask if you do outside chores.

Take extra steps when pollen counts are high
Seasonal allergy signs and symptoms can flare up when there’s a lot of pollen in the air. These steps can help you reduce your exposure:
• Check your local TV or radio station, your local newspaper, or the Internet for pollen forecasts and current pollen levels.
• If high pollen counts are forecasted, start taking allergy medications before your symptoms start.
• Close doors and windows at night or any other time when pollen counts are high.
• Avoid outdoor activity in the early morning when pollen counts are highest.

Keep indoor air clean
There’s no miracle product that can eliminate all allergens from the air in your home, but these suggestions may help:
• Use the air conditioning in your house and car.
• If you have forced air heating or air conditioning in your house, use high-efficiency filters and follow regular maintenance schedules.
• Keep indoor air dry with a dehumidifier.
• Use a portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter in your bedroom.
• Clean floors often with a vacuum cleaner that has a HEPA filter.

Reminders
All email messages and letters sent in to the Board or Fairfield MUST have a shareholder’s name and address. The Board recently received a valid and prudent complaint, but we could not act on it because it was anonymous.

To all building residents who are gardeners (or would-be gardeners): Before you make any changes to the structure of the grounds, including flowerbeds, tree circles, and plantings, you must receive Board approval. Please write in to the Board email address via the Woodlands Web site, or drop off a request for approval at the 120 Finch Lane mailbox. Keep in mind that you are responsible for any damage your actions cause to the common elements in the community.
Attitude Does Make a Difference

It is not my intention to beat this past winter “to death,” but I believe that’s exactly what I’m doing. On Saturday, March 28th, when I was once again visiting my family in sunny, warm, green, and flowery California, friends and family sent pictures of snow on Long Island. I couldn’t believe what I was seeing, but there it was, white and beautiful snow once again, and it was for real. It seemed every time I talked to someone in California who knew I was from New York, they would say, “You poor thing, aren’t you glad you came out here?” I said I was indeed from New York, very glad to be in California, and proceeded to show them my pictures of the highway and snow right outside my building. They couldn’t believe it.

Now that the “winter that was” is really over, I can reflect upon it. My first recollection was of so many events cancelled and the disappointments that were caused. It seemed the schools were always closed. There was literal danger in walking, driving, and just getting around outdoors. There was the heavy snow, the pot holes, the sand in our units, the freezing cold temperatures, and the seemingly never-ending task of shoveling. People kept mumbling to each other, “I’m done,” or “I can’t take this any longer.”

I personally know two people whose lives were profoundly altered. One of them is a man who suffered from Parkinson’s disease. She had to have surgery on her leg and go into a rehab facility for approximately eight weeks, causing her to be away from her ailing husband all that time. Their daughter tried to take care of him, but she wasn’t what he knew, and he got so bad, he had to go into a nursing home for his own protection. Luckily my friend was permitted to transfer to the same facility to be with him, and continue her rehabilitation. This couple, who were married more than 50 years, were together just one week, and then the man died suddenly, so his wife had to deal with the appalling situation from the rehab facility. With the loving support of her family and all the while sitting in her wheelchair, she helped make funeral arrangements, attended the wake and the funeral, and then went back to the rehab facility. She finally returned to her empty home on April 3rd. I can’t imagine her heartbreak, yet she survived because of her faith and her positive attitude: “I can do this because I have I have to.”

Recently, one of the volunteer firemen from the Sayville Fire Department, who is also a FDNY firefighter, suffered a similar winter-related accident. On Thursday, March 5th, during a snowstorm, he responded—along with two other firemen—to the scene of a reported manhole fire in Brooklyn. Unfortunately my friend happened to stand on top of the snow-covered and icy cover when it blew up. The explosion had the force of a land mine, and he was thrown at least 15 feet in the air. That violent blast broke his femur in three places, causing him to stay in the hospital for approximately 18 months! Nonetheless, he has a good and positive attitude and is determined to “get back up on the trucks.” This brave man continues to do as much as he possibly can for his home for the two fire departments, all while performing his in-home rehabilitation. I believe this type of attitude and determination will take him a long way toward his recovery.

A positive attitude is a useful tool when dealing with harsh conditions and hard times. It is that manner of thinking that reflects a state of mind or behavior that helps us get through those periods. Personally, when I faced snowstorm after snowstorm and had to clear off the car and additionally shovel it out, then go up and haul the heavy snow off my second story deck, and then continue to clear a grassy area for my little dog, I was often near tears. But then I caught myself and realized it all in my attitude, “I can do this because I have to,” and I did...one snowstorm at a time.

The winter is over and gone and that’s a wonderful thing. Soon our Woodlands community will be beautiful once again, to include green grass, and beautiful trees and flowers. And it won’t be difficult having a wonderful attitude of joy toward it all.

Submitted by Pam Ward

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Happy Mother’s Day
Best Wishes to our Moms! In honor of Mother’s Day this month, here are a few quotes from Motherhood.org:

Education commences at the mother’s knee, and every word spoken within the hearing of little children tends towards the formation of character.
- Hoses Ballou

Everybody wants to save the earth; nobody wants to help Mom with the dishes.
- P.J. O’Rourke

God could not be everywhere, so he created mothers.
- Jewish Proverb

I never knew how much love my heart could hold until someone called me “mommymy.”
- Author Unknown

All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.
- Abraham Lincoln

A man loves his sweetheart the most, his wife the best, but his mother the longest.
- Irish Proverb

A mother holds her children’s hands for a while... their hearts forever. A mother is a person who, seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie.
- Teneva Jordan

A mother understands what a child does not say.
- Jewish Proverb

A mother’s arms are made of tenderness and children sleep soundly in them.
- Victor Hugo

A mother’s love for her child is like nothing else in the world. It knows no law, no pity, it dares all things and crushes down remorselessly all that stands in its path.
- Agatha Christie

God blesses our homes when we respect our mothers with words, attitudes, and actions.
- Dr. Charles Stanley

Submitted by Michele Venza

- Hosea Ballou
- P.J. O’Rourke
- Jewish Proverb
- Author Unknown
- Abraham Lincoln
- Irish Proverb
- Teneva Jordan
- Jewish Proverb
- Victor Hugo
- Agatha Christie
- Dr. Charles Stanley
Less is More and A Good Heart

The long awaited pleasant weather is finally here and many of us have swapped our snow shovels for garden tools. We have many creative neighbors here in the Woodlands, as is evident by the flowers, plants, and garden décor that are in view. If anyone would like to share their experience about the care of plants, you are welcome to submit your article to WOODLANDSBD2011@YAHOO.COM for review for submission to the Woodlands Newsletter.

When in doubt about what to plant and where, or if you have other related questions, please contact Charlie in Maintenance or the Board (via email or the mailbox at 120 Finch Lane) with your inquiry. When considering garden decorations, "less is more." While the Board does not want to put a damper on your creative ideas, it is best to limit the amount of decorations in garden areas to keep a neat appearance throughout the Woodlands and to allow landscapers and other workers to clear areas and work.

We are not the only ones enjoying the warmer weather; the birds and squirrels are having a good time, too. Though it is a generous gesture, please, please, don't feed the wildlife as this encourages other types of 'unwelcome guests.' The squirlers are not shy about digging up bulbs, garden beds and making expensive trouble. During the winter months, Charlie humanely removed a family of squirrels who made their home in one of the roofs of our buildings. Recently, The Woodlands had to remove a tree because it was hollowed out by squirrels (the worker who removed the tree was able to determine what caused the issue). Wildlife can exist without our well-meaning help, so please think of your neighbors and the expense to our community when we have to replace trees or plants.

Submitted by Michele Venza
Creamy Lemon Chicken
Prep: 10 minutes Cook Time: 15 minutes

- 1 pound shrimp, shelled and deveined
- 2 limes, juice and zest or 1/4 cup lime juice
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/4 cup dry white wine (or broth)
- 3/4 cup chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 4 (6 ounce) boneless and skinless chicken breasts, pounded thin
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 shallots, finely diced
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/2 cup heavy/whipping cream
- 1 lemon, zest and juice (or 1/4 cup lemon juice)
- 1 teaspoon dijon mustard
- 1/2 cup parmesigiano reggiano (parmesan), grated
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons dill, chopped (optional)

Directions
Heat the oil and melt the butter in a pan over medium-high heat, season the chicken with salt and pepper, place in the pan and cook until lightly golden brown and cooked through, about 3-5 minutes per side, before setting aside. Add the shallots and garlic and cook for a minute. Add the wine and deglaze the pan before adding the broth, cream, lemon zest and juice mustard and chicken and simmering to reduce until the sauce has thickened a bit, about 3-5 minutes. Mix in the parmesan, let it melt, season with salt and pepper to taste and mix in the dill before removing from heat.

Option: Serve sliced and tossed in pasta along with vegetables like asparagus and peas.

Cilantro Lime Grilled Shrimp
Prep: 10 minutes Marinate Time: 30 minutes Cook Time: 10 minutes

- 1/2 jalapeno, coarsely chopped (optional)
- 1 clove garlic, grated
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup heavy/whipping cream
- 1 lemon, zest and juice (or 1/4 cup lemon juice)
- 1 teaspoon dijon mustard
- 1/2 cup parmesigiano reggiano (parmesan), grated
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons dill, chopped (optional)

Directions
Marinate the shrimp in the mixture of the lime juice, zest, oil, cilantro, jalapeno, garlic, salt and pepper for 30 minutes. Skewer the shrimp and grill over medium-high heat until cooked, about 2-3 minutes per side.

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Cinco de Mayo History

Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of the Mexican Army’s victory over France during the Franco-Mexican War. The battle was fought at Puebla and is considered a minor holiday inside Mexico. In the U.S. however, Cinco de Mayo not only celebrates the victory at the Battle of Puebla, but a celebration of the culture and heritage of the Mexican people.

- According to the 2011 Census, there are 33.6 million US residents who claim Mexican origin.
- During Mexico’s war with France, the US was engaged in its Civil War. Cinco de Mayo celebrates the Mexican victory at the Battle of Puebla. This battle was a significant turning point for the US as well. The French were US Confederate Army supporters. During the Battle of Puebla, their attention became so focused on the battle with Mexico, the US Union Army forces were able to advance and gain significant ground.
- Cinco de Mayo literally means 5th of May.
- In 2012, Mexico was the third largest trade partner with the US, with over $494 billion traded.
- Over 60% of US residents claiming Mexican origin live in either California or Texas.

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