

# VOICE



## KACHINA DOLLS

Maggie Skitarelic had a collection of Kachina Dolls from her travels in the Southwest. Kachina dolls were carved of cottonwood root by the Hopi tribes. The dolls were given to young girls and new brides to instruct them about Katsinas, the immortal beings that controlled the natural world and acted as messengers between humans and the spirit world. In response to tourist interest, the dolls changed over the years and became more commercial. However, Maggie's dolls are authentic, carved by one artist and, as specified in her will, are being returned to a museum on a Hopi reservation in Arizona where the carver still lives. He will make any needed repairs. Some of the carvings are more than 50 years old. Packing the dolls to be shipped was very elaborate as you can see on page 2. Thanks to Anne O'Rourke for the information. Thanks to David Phillips for the photos.



## PACKING THE KACHINAS



## ANDREA CARLSON FOLK CONCERT

Many people enjoyed the Andrea Carlson Folk Concert arranged through Rob Robbins on Sunday, October 25th. Thanks to Suzanne Peters for the photos.



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## LEAVE THE LEAVES

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What good are fallen leaves in the fall and winter? For one thing, they return essential organic material to the soil. For birds, leaf litter contains an abundance of food—Springtails, millipedes, centipedes, beetles, spiders, snails, earthworms, larvae and sometimes adult forms of butterflies and moths; fallen berries and seeds. Many birds, such as Thrushes, Veeries, Towhees and many sparrows rely on leaf litter for foraging. According to Don Friday in Wildbird (Nov/Dec. 2009), at least 122 species might forage through leaf litter in a backyard.

In addition to birds, the larvae and pupae of many butterflies and moths, such as the Luna moth, overwinter in leaf litter. Raking up the leaf litter rakes up the larvae and diminishes the summer population of the moths and butterflies.



Luna moth

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## WINTER IS COMING

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Many birds spend the winter in this area. (Chickadees, Woodpeckers, Goldfinches, House Finches, Sparrows, Juncos, Siskins, Titmouse, Nuthatches, etc.) Most of them are seed eaters, because insects are hard to find during winter. However, Bluebirds, Woodpeckers, Carolina Wrens, Robins and other insect and fruit eaters may be seen during the winter, although in smaller numbers.

Winter is difficult and bird mortality is high. The seed eating birds live on seeds of plants such as Monarda, black-eyed Susan, Cone flowers and grasses (another benefit of our meadow!). (This is why the meadow should not be mowed until winter is over.)

Except on the coldest days or after ice storms, bird feeders don't keep the birds alive, but they do provide a reliable source of quick energy which may make a difference. This is particularly true at dusk as birds prepare for a long night and at dawn when they need to rebuild their energy stores after burning up their fat reserves to stay warm overnight. Water is crucial for birds, so a heated birdbath is very helpful in freezing weather.

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10/18 Patti Calderoni  
10/26 Carmela Mooney



## SPRINGTON LAKE VILLAGE

“Leading the way in creative 55+ housing”

Springton Lake Village is a cooperative community of 40 residences for individuals and couples, 55 or older, established in 2002. Upscale and independent, with a neighborhood feel, no additional residences will ever be built. There are no entrance fees. Equity ownership assures members a say in how the community is run.

It is located in Marple Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and is operated by Springton Housing Association Cooperative, Inc., a non-profit corporation owned by the residents. The Village is convenient to Philadelphia's Main Line and the cultural, recreational and sports attractions of one of America's great cities.

Ridley Creek State Park and Tyler Arboretum are close by, as are Delaware County's finest country clubs. There is convenient access to Interstate 476 and U.S. Route 1.

Our waterfront community features the serenity of Springton Lake and its half mile of pristine shoreline. Residents enjoy peaceful woods, clean air, open skies, beautiful sunsets, a walking path that winds through the property, a fitness center, and a flexible dining plan four nights a week in the multi-purpose Clubhouse.

Springton is associated with nearby Dunwoody Village and White Horse Village, acclaimed and accredited continuing care retirement communities with long term care facilities.

### MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mike and Carmen are in the process of winterizing exterior hose faucets, storing deck furniture, and installing glass in the storm doors. If you need them to come to your house, please let the office know.

Mike and Carmen will also begin changing out HVAC filters in each of the units.

### ACTIVITIES

Mondays 1PM Mahjong

Tuesdays 1PM Canasta in Clubhouse

Monday, 10/10 Movie "A Very Long Engagement" 6:50PM

Wednesday, 10/12 Chat Plus 2PM Spinelli

Monday 10/17 Romeo/Juliet Lunch noon

Monday 10/17 Movie "Intimate Strangers" 6:50PM

Tuesday, 10/25 Winterthur Museum

Monday, 10/31 Civil War talk by John Bowman 4PM