

January 2019

Year 14 Volume 1



What will you do differently than you did in 2019! Will you make an effort to meet and greet a new neighbor? Will you become involve with the Glens or the County Creek Board? Will you pick up litter you see while walking through the neighborhood.

The Glens Board wishes everyone the happiest of New Year's

Bob, Doug, Jayne, Jay

Brian, Jamie and Mark



HOLIDAY DECORATIONS



“THANK YOU” to all of you that decorated for the holidays. The decorations certainly made our community feel very festive and your efforts are appreciated! We would like to remind you however that all decorations need to be removed no later than January 31st. Thank you!

2019 Glens Board Meetings

@ Clubhouse



January 15 Meeting.....7: 00PM

March 19 Meeting7:00PM

May 21 Meeting.....7:00 PM

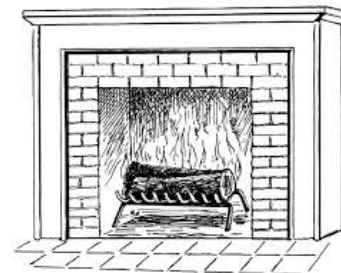
July 16 Meeting.....7:00PM

September 17 Meeting..... 7:00 PM

November 19 Meeting7:00 PM

Make Sure Your Fireplace is Safe

Here's what to look for to ensure your fireplace is safe and up-to-snuff.



How do you keep your fireplace safe? The best tools you have are your eyes.

With regular visual [inspections](#) both inside your home and out, you'll make sure your [fireplace](#) is in good shape for the burning season.

Checking From the Outside

Examine the chimney to make sure a chimney cap is present and in good repair. The metal cap keeps animals, rain, and snow out of the chimney, while acting as a spark arrester that prevents hot embers from landing on your [roofing](#).

If you have a multi-story home or a steep roof, play it safe and use a pair of binoculars to check the chimney cap from the ground.

While you're at it, make sure:

- There's no bird nest or debris buildup on the cap.
- There are no tree limbs above or near the chimney.
- The mortar and bricks on the chimney aren't crumbling or missing.
- The chimney rises at least 2 feet above where it exits the roof.
- The chimney crown — the sloping cement shoulders at the top of the chimney — is beveled, which helps air flow.
- The flue liner is visible above the chimney crown.
- The chimney is plumb and not leaning to one side or the other.

The roof flashing is tight against the chimney.

If you spot anything amiss, call a licensed chimney professional or mason to remedy the problem. For pricey jobs, make sure to get a second estimate.

Looking Inside Your Home

With a flashlight, inspect the flue damper to make sure it opens, closes, and seals properly.

"If the damper doesn't seal well, you'll lose a tremendous amount of heat from the home when the fireplace isn't in use," explains Gary Spolar, a licensed sweep and owner of Century Chimney in northeast Ohio.

With the damper open, check the flue for combustible material such as animal nests or other foreign objects. You should be able to see daylight at the top.

Inspect the fireplace surround, hearth, and firebox to make sure there are no cracked bricks or missing mortar. Damage inside the firebox is serious — have a professional [fireplace and chimney inspection](#). An inspection costs \$79-\$500.

Also, check for obvious signs of moisture inside the firebox, which could mean a faulty cap.

We enjoy [gas fireplaces](#) because they're low-maintenance — but that doesn't mean they're no-maintenance. You should:

- Inspect the glass doors for cracks or latch issues.
- Check that gas logs are in the proper position.
- Turn gas off at the shut-off valve and test the igniter.

Ignite the fire and look for clogged burner holes. If present, turn off gas and clear obstructions with a pin or needle.

Making New Year's Resolutions Count

If you're like most people, you've probably experienced the sudden burst of motivation that comes in early January, as holiday indulgences make their way to the waistline and New Year's resolutions force a new look at the figure we see in the mirror.

"This is the year," so the resolution goes, "that I vow to lose ten pounds and keep it off." Other common variations include goals to get back to one's "true" weight, to fit into a size ten, etc.

And worthy resolutions they are. Sadly, New Year's resolutions are notoriously short-lived, if not

1. Choose the Right Resolution

For all too many resolutions, failure is virtually assured at the offset because the resolutions are not made with serious intent and deliberation. The first trick is to choose the right resolution, for the right reasons

2. Create a Plan

Most resolutions fail because people stop once they've made the resolution. It is crucial to harness New Year's temporary motivation into something that will carry you through an extended period of required effort

3. Stay on Track

With a good plan in hand, making significant progress toward your goal may require very little discipline for those who live strictly by daily planners and love nothing more than checking off items on our to-do lists.

4. Remain Flexible and Keep on Going

A recent realization among goal-setting experts is the need to continually modify our approach—sometimes even changing or abandoning a goal altogether. The reason for this is that circumstances beyond our control frequently crop up at the most unexpected and inconvenient times. We can also expect our short-term and long-term priorities to change. So long as we build flexibility into our expectations, we can simply adjust things as we go.



"Happy New Year? But I'm not finished with the old one yet!"



Speeding

Please remember to obey the *15 mph residential speed limit!* As you know, the community's streets have multiple turns. Because of this layout, there simply isn't enough time to properly react to pedestrians (big and small), other cars or obstructions. Please keep this in mind when leaving or returning home so there are no unfortunate accidents.



Extra! Extra! READ all about it!

The Glens at Country Creek Has joined neighborhoods around the world, 88 countries, by installing a **Little Free Library**. It will be located near the benches at the corner of Leatherwood Drive & Buttonwood Circle. There will be an initial supply of books, some of which arrived with the library box, others have been generously donated. Please take a book you've finished, donate it, & take another book. If you are a garage-saler, please feel free to add to our library in this way.

Todd Bol, creator of the Little Free Library movement, dies at 62

Todd Bol hammered together the first Little Free Library. Then he built a movement around it.

Bol believed the now-ubiquitous little boxes of books — and the neighbors who cared for them — could change a block, a city, the world. So he brought them to front yards all over, often installing them himself. Known for his wild optimism and keen business sense, the Little Free Library founder died Thursday morning, just weeks after he was found to have pancreatic cancer. He was 62. Using wood from his old garage door, Bol fashioned the first library-on-a-stick in 2009 on his deck in Hudson, Wis. It was a tribute to his mom, June Bol, who was always welcoming kids to their Stillwater kitchen table for a sandwich or help with homework. “It was a spiritual gesture,” Bol explained in 2013. At a garage sale in 2010, his neighbors cooed. So he built a few more boxes, selling one and giving away a few dozen more. Bol set a goal of 2,150 — to beat the number of Carnegie Libraries in the country. Less than a decade later, more than 75,000 dollhouse-size libraries have sprouted on front lawns in 88 countries.

The serial entrepreneur spoke about how, after he lost his job, his wife Susan encouraged him to take some time for himself. So he took off on a road trip. “It was like ‘Easy Rider’ — but with a minivan and self-help tapes,” Bol joked. Then he started messing with that old garage door, building a miniature red schoolhouse and stuffing books inside. “Kids reading and people reading to them, you know, it changes everything,” he said. “It changes the whole attitude of what is valued in a community. A Little Free Library is this sweet little nudge.”