

October 2020

Dear Rustic Ridge Friends,

Summer 2020! Year of the pandemic!! The Ridge stayed beautiful and welcoming. You all remember how it enriches heart, soul, and spirit.

Please keep up with RusticRidge.org. Check in as rrmembers. Password is Northfield1! Bob Ziegenhagen created and does a great job of keeping up with this website. It contains a wealth of information: names and addresses of members, places to swim, day excursions, cottage stories... It is a good place to list a cottage for sale.

Dennis and I spent more time at Northfield than ever. It felt safe. Wi-Fi worked. The golf course and tennis court were in great condition. We discovered endless trails throughout the region and explored small towns with fascinating histories. Best of all was quality time with friends –outside, 4 max and proper distancing!

While a surprising number of people did come to The Ridge, we certainly missed Elaine Harned, Charlotte Martin, Dave and Lucia Powell, and Anne Stearnes who stayed home because of the virus. You will all want to welcome newcomers, Ryne Hager who bought the Chesbro house on the top ridge and the Dighellos who bought the little cottage on the Willows.

Thomas Aquinas College is in operation. The college welcomed 100 students this fall and expects to reach an enrollment of 400 within the next several years.

Please take notice of the trees around your cottages! Several storms were destructive in August and late September when a short, devastating storm with high winds caused significant damage. Several trees came down including one that went through the side roof of the cottage at 68 Woodruff Way. It had looked like new when we left!

We received notice that the \$1,000.00 we contributed to the Food Pantry was greatly appreciated. There has been a 30% increase in family needs for food in the Northfield community!

The Northfield Library was pleased to receive THESE TRUTHS by Jill LePore in memory of our beloved Alan Abel who passed away because of the pandemic.

Along with this letter is information for paying dues. **Please send your checks now.** It is too easy to forget. Road repair and clearing are significant areas demanding attention.

Next summer the pandemic will be gone (we hope)! Plan to return to The Ridge for a summer of celebration! Share your ideas for gatherings and be involved. What a wonderful group we are!!

With all best wishes,

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