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[Test] This Week at Giants Neck Beach

Giants Neck Beach Association <website.gnba@16054043.mailchimpapp.com> Sun, Sep 1, 2024 at 10:23 PM Reply-To: us6-56c5e4b0f0-f700c2f3f9@inbound.mailchimp.com To: "<< Test First Name >> << Test Last Name >>" <website.gnba@gmail.com>

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This Week at Giants Neck Beach

July 29, 2024

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Special Meeting Regarding Pickleball 7/31/24 6:00 pm, agenda

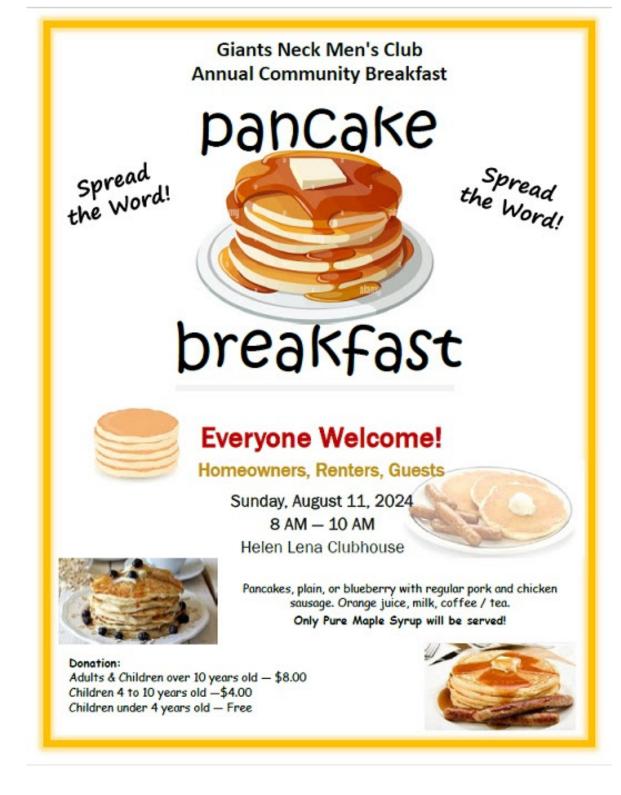
Disco Night 8/3/24, 7 pm

Board of Governors Meeting 8/7/24 6:30 pm

Annual Pancake Breakfast, 8/11/24

There will be a public hearing regarding proposed changes to the zoning regulations on August 22 at 6 pm at the clubhouse. The proposed zoning regulations are attached <u>here</u>.





<u>News</u>

Ring Found!

A ring was found at the tennis courts last week. If you think it might be yours, contact Terra Moore at 443-243-1902 to describe and claim it.

Volunteers Needed

Some committees are looking for new members! Zoning Commission- contact Marilyn Jacobs at <u>maj95@snet.net</u> Recreation Committee- contact Julie Cameron at Julie Cameron juliecameron.jc@gmail.com

Cameras on the Court

This is just a reminder that cameras have been installed on the multi-purpose court. If you have seen activity during off-hours or outside the court guidelines, contact a member of the BOG to review the recording.



Giants Neck Beach - A Natural Beauty

July 26, 2024



Photo courtesy of Noel Young)

Recently, a bobcat (Lynx rufus) was spotted in our neighborhood. I'm not lucky enough to have seen this beauty of an animal, but many others have. Besides, I'm not sure how happy I'd be to see a cat the size of my dog, Lacey, when I am giving her an evening walk, so I decided to go out and learn more about this predator visiting our neighborhood.

The Bobcat is the only native wild cat found in Connecticut. Adult males are 32-37 inches long and weigh between 18 and 35 pounds, while adult females are 28-32 inches long and weigh 15-30 pounds. If you find tracks that look like a cat's footprint, look to see that they are round with no claw marks. The Bobcat keeps its claws retracted as it walks.

Bobcats prefer brushy lowlands and swamps, so I guess "ours" enjoys hanging around the upper pond. This cat has a range of 8-20 square miles and will typically walk 1-4 miles to hunt for its dinner. Bobcats have begun to actually choose to live near human development (apparently, Bridgeport is a hotbed for them). But it is no wonder, with the great variety of fresh food our neighborhoods offer.

Speaking of dinner....all those rabbits, woodchucks, squirrels, chipmunks, mice (yes!), small deer, turkeys, insects, and reptiles that also like our neighborhood are our perfect buffet. Deer may seem big for a bobcat, but it will choose those that are sick, injured, young, or very old.

They breed in February and March and then choose a den in hollow logs and trees, caves, and rock crevices. This same den can be used for several years,

but they will move their den to a new location every couple of weeks when they have kittens to keep them safe. Kittens are born in April and nurse for about 60 days. They stay with their mama for just under a full year before moving out to make room for a new litter.

Bobcats are most active just after dusk and before dawn. This is when they listen and watch for prey. They may not eat their prey all in one sitting, so they cover it with leaves and grass for future meals. They are not prone to cause problems with humans but may occasionally find a domestic cat to be a good catch.

The state of Connecticut's DEEP page provides excellent information on the population. And they are looking for information on Bobcat Sightings! When you see a bobcat, write down the following information: the number of bobcats, the date and specific location, whether you see an ear tag or collar, and any other comments. Here is the survey to fill out: <u>https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/775f654283da4b769146cdd3d39d0e1c?portalUrl=https://CTDEEP.</u> maps.arcgis.com.

Our fox population seems to not be as large this year as in the past, but now we have a new native animal to watch for. I'd recommend keeping an eye on your small pets, but there is no end to the bunnies, squirrels, and chipmunks available for them. Perhaps even a gosling or two will be caught by this animal. Here are a few resources if you want to learn more while you are enjoying the nature of Giants Neck Beach: https://portal.ct.gov/deep/wildlife/learn-about-wildlife/bobcats-in-connecticut#:~: text=ln%20Connecticut%2C%20bobcats%20prey%20on,lesser%20extent%2C%20insects%20and%20reptiles.

https://www.ctpublic.org/environment/2019-01-22/what-are-the-secrets-ofconnecticuts-bobcats

https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/connecticuts-bobcat-populationflourishing/2200244/

Have a great week!

visit us on the web

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Our private Facebook group is:



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