

"It All Began Here!"- Wilde Lake e-News June 12, 2020

**A Message from Nancy McCord**  
**Wilde Lake Representative to the CA Board of Directors**

Hello Wilde Lakers and anyone else who gets our newsletter,

As many are aware, CA is now very short staffed. A large majority of the staff has been furloughed. Because of COVID-19, CA has had a large shortfall in income. Expenses had to be reduced dramatically in order to protect the Association and all its facilities.

CA Board members have received many, many emails from the community asking us to please reverse the decision to close the pools. I would like to take a minute of your time to explain this decision further.

Initially, it was hoped that a few pools could open later this summer. For that reason a few pools were prepared for opening. However, as time passed, it became clear that it was more and more unlikely the pools would open.

The board has discussed this several times. I was initially in favor of them opening. But it became clear that opening a pool would leave many frustrated because it isn't as they had imagined.

Today we got a message from someone who said she wants to be able to take her daughter to the pool. While her daughter played with friends, she could sit by the pool and read. Sounded lovely to me. But reality struck and I came out of my reverie. In order for pools to open there would be severe restrictions on use. People would have to make reservation and an extremely limited number of people would be allowed in to the pool. No one would be able to use the lounge chairs.

Because it would greatly limit the number of people that could use the pools, it would also greatly limit the amount of money CA would collect for the use. Besides hiring and training lifeguards, extra staff would be needed who would help maintain the rules of the pool more rigidly. Children are least likely to adhere to social distancing. People say they would be responsible for their children and most would be. But if there are a few children that don't follow the rules, it makes it even harder for everyone.. I don't know about you, but keeping constant watch over my child to keep them away from others is not my idea of a relaxing day at the pool.

Our preconceived notions of a day at the pool was yesterdays news. We are in an entirely new situation here. It is CA's job to work in the best interest of the community. The board feels that it is best to keep people safe than to put them in situations that can cause further spread of this nasty virus.

Yes, financial considerations come into play also. CA did open golf and two of the tennis facilities. Tennis was opened for singles tennis only. It is therefore much easier to open those facilities where people can maintain social distancing easily. If children play tennis or golf, they are welcome to use those facilities.

Yes, children have been cooped up for months and need to get outdoors. It is a shame they won't have the opportunities they have had in the past. I totally agree. I am an avid user of the pools. It is also my means of exercise. My friends and I miss the pools terribly. Simply put, I feel your pain. However, between the potential of spreading the virus and the financial situation, CA cannot comply with your wishes to open the pools this year. I would safely say, I regret that as much as anyone else in our fair city.

Things are changing almost daily with the lockdown that is now less than a lock down. Please note: The Wilde Lake Swim Center will open on June 20 for Lap Swimmers, Deep Water fitness lovers, and for recreational swimmers.

Please check online at [ColumbiaAssociation.org](http://ColumbiaAssociation.org) to see if there are reservation requirements and if the kiddie pool is open. It most likely will not be. But again, things are changing daily, therefore please call the Swim Center or check on-line for requirements to use the facility.

Happy summer.  
Warmly,  
Nancy  
[Nancy.mccord@ca-board.org](mailto:Nancy.mccord@ca-board.org)

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**Announcing the Bernice Kish Gallery Virtual Exhibit**

We can't have a live exhibit at the Bernice Kish Gallery, but we are excited to present a virtual exhibit by well known sculptor and artist Julie Van Hemert. Click the link below and enjoy her latest production, "Peopled Jeans". This exhibit will be on our website from June 11 through August 8.

[Click here](#) to access the exhibit.



### Peopled Jeans By Julie van Hemert

Artist Statement

Since 2004 I have concentrated on two dimensional, large wallhangings fabricated from mostly old, donated jeans. Subject? PEOPLE, PEOPLE, PEOPLE!

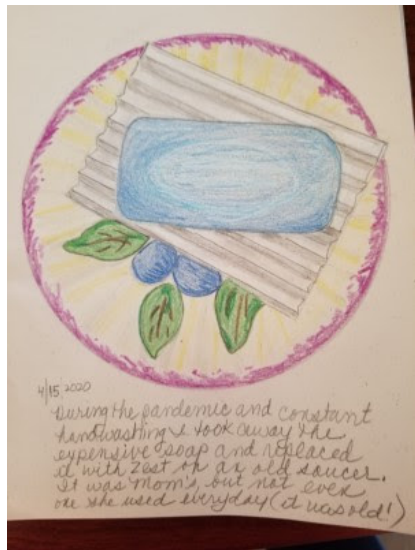
My PEOPLED JEANS were inspired by a visit to a quilt show. One of the quilts was artfully made out of very worn blue jeans and that turned on my PEOPLED JEANS light bulb!

I just love cutting up those old jeans and suddenly seeing a new use for an old seam or waistband. I begin by putting the right colors together and as I work, a title pops into my mind and everything falls into place. Or.... the title might come first, inspired by a photo, somebody's gesture, a story, a visit to a museum, an event in my life.

I so enjoy translating all this into figurative images created from my, ever growing, collection of jeans and some purchased denim.

After pinning, basting and machine sewing, the heads and embellishments are created with great care. All my PEOPLED JEANS wallhangings are unique: no copies will be or were ever made.

Heartfelt thanks to everybody who generously donated their jeans! Old or not so old, those blue jeans speak to me in passionate ways.....



4/15/2020  
 During the pandemic and constant handwashing I took away the expensive soap and replaced it with 2oz of an old saucer. It was Mom's but not even on she used everyday (it was old!)

### Help Preserve Columbia's Collective Voice

Take action and become part of the history of Columbia by submitting your unique voice through the [Chronicling Columbia's Resilience in a Pandemic — Together at a Distance](#) project. Columbia Archives launched this project providing an objective space to encourage our residents to share their voices at the onset of the coronavirus outbreak. We continue to collect documentation during this unique and tumultuous time in history.

Thank you Katherine McCarter, one of our participants who shared her artwork and poem (shown in this email). McCarter responded that her vision of Columbia after this pandemic was "Greater appreciation for Columbia's paths, lakes and open spaces. Understanding that everyone needs to consider others."

We'd love to hear from you, too! Simply submit your personal writing and testimony, artist renderings (i.e., poem, performance or visual artwork), photograph or brief video testimony to become part of history in the making. Columbia residents, family, and individual submissions are encouraged. [Click here to participate.](#)



School Supplies Connection by Prepare for Success is asking for your help in providing supplies for students in the coming year. [Click here](#) to find out more about how you can donate to provide for those students in need.



### Seeking Lawn Mowers!

Attention Wilde Lake Teens! We are gathering a list of those interested in mowing lawns in Wilde Lake. If you are interested in being included on the list, please send your name and contact information to [gallery@wildelake.org](mailto:gallery@wildelake.org). Include the neighborhood in which you live.



### June Health and Wellness Tip of the Week

June is National Safety Month. What are you doing to keep you, your loved ones, and those around you safe??? This week our Health & Wellness Tip is on **Safe Driving**. Below are some tips to keep everyone safe on the road:

- Avoid the Dash to the Dashboard: Engaging with infotainment systems takes our eyes off the road and our attention away from driving; distracted driving kills
- Dangers of Drowsy Driving: Losing two hours of sleep has the same effect on driving as having three beers
- The Great Multitasking Lie: Many people think they are good multitaskers, but that is actually a myth, especially when it comes to cell phone use while driving
- Hands-free is not Risk-free: Think a hands-free device is safer? Think again

This information is provided by the Health and Wellness Committee. For more information, contact Laura Torres at [lm4941@yahoo.com](mailto:lm4941@yahoo.com)

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**Wilde Lake Village Center Stores Open for Business**

[Click here](#) to see the list of Wilde Lake Village Center stores that are operating during the coronavirus pandemic

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**PLEASE NOTE: SLAYTON HOUSE WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. Staff is working remotely and can be contacted by email. Please check the website for contact information.**