

To: Planning Board

My husband and I express our opposition to a proposed pool at 36 Herkimer Rd.

There are a few basic but extremely important issues to consider in protesting this pool.

First, the pool proposed is in the 100 foot wetland buffer zone. This buffer is provided to help maintain wetlands. According to Scarsdale Village 171 'MITIGATION PLAN The plan prepared by an applicant when the applicant has demonstrated that either losses or impacts to the wetlands or wetlands buffer are necessary and unavoidable and have been minimized to the maximum extent practicable.'

These wetlands and buffer have been a sanctuary for local fish and fowl. Disturbance to the surrounding buffer with a pool will effect this natural habitat and as stated by Scarsdale above, is certainly '**avoidable and not necessary.**'

According to the NY State Wetlands Act, "New York has lost almost half of its historic wetlands to such activities as filling and draining. However, wetlands are valuable to the people and environment of New York State. Wetlands provide areas for recreation, education and research. They also provide valuable open space, especially in developing areas where they may be the only green space remaining."

Scarsdale Board of Trustees state this: 'It is therefore the policy of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale to protect its citizens and those of downstream communities, including future generations, by preventing the further despoliation and destruction of wetlands and watercourses within the village while taking into account varying ecological, water quality, economic, recreational and aesthetic values. Activities that may damage wetlands functions or cause the loss of wetlands and watercourses should be avoided and, where avoidance is not practicable, minimized to the fullest practicable extent.'

Second, my husband, I and our 4 children have lived in Scarsdale for almost 40 years.

We have supported the community and our local Herkimer Road Association. My husband and I both coached our children's teams, I was a PTA Vice President both in Quaker Ridge and the Middle School. I volunteered on many boards and have maintained a position on our Herkimer Road Association.

As for our professional careers, my husband publishes a magazine entitled: Back in The Bronx and I was dubbed the Original Coupon Queen almost 40 years ago by the Today Show. A title I still proudly hold and continue to expand.

During that time, since Herkimer Road is a private road, I have helped collect dues and the over \$65,000.00 needed to repave our road. Peter Savignano has owned 36 Herkimer Road for 11 years and built 2 other new homes on our street.

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He has never contributed time or money to maintain our road. His only interest is to build, leave damage to the street in his wake, and never become a responsible party. The rest of us had to subsidize his portion of the paving and other maintenance projects.

I mention this since this pool will negatively affect my husband and my life. We side Hutchinson River Parkway. Our home was angled away from the parkway and toward 36 and the Golf Course. We dealt with the new 'oversized' home at 36 thinking our view would remain intact.

Third: The proposed location of the pool is in our direct view and will negatively affect our quality of life. With a proposed 5' fence around the perimeter of the property I will have no view since I am 4' 9" tall. We are 71 and 72 respectively, and our home is our 'haven, our sanctuary' and we hope you will honor and respect our needs.

As for the fence, it is our opinion that one around the pool is a perfect compromise if this pool is approved, and the type of fence be changed to a Jerith not a Chain link with foliage on the outer part of the fence.

My question to the board, why disrupt the wetland buffer and permit this pool? We feel as contributing Scarsdale citizens, we and the wetlands deserve this consideration. The builder is just that, with no ties to the community, no willingness to maintain its beauty and accepting no financial betterment of Herkimer Road and Scarsdale.

We are sending copies of this letter:

Cc: The Board of Architectural Review

Cc: The Board of Trustees

Cc: Planning Board Members: James Blum, John Clapp, Linda Doucette-Ashman, Thomas Longman, Dan Steinberg, Timothy Foley, Harold Porosoff

Submitted: Susan and Stephen Samtur
40 Herkimer Rd.