

LOFS Fundraising **Committee**

The LOFS Fundraising Committee brings a new dining experience to the Seasons Lakehouse!

The LOFS Fundraising Committee is thrilled to announce our latest community enhancement—Dining Domes! The community can now experience dining outside overlooking beautiful Lake Holiday in the coziness of one of the two domes. The domes have also been equipped with twinkle lights, heaters, seat cushions. and warm blankets.

A huge "Thank You" to our Community Manager, Rick Cleveland & our awesome Operations Manager, Roy Green and his staff for all their hard work!

The Committee officially handed over the keys to Michelle Fuscoe, Lakehouse Manager at the November Comedy Night. Michelle is thrilled to add this dining experience to the Lakehouse.

Look for further information on the Lakehouse Facebook page. Happy Dining!



Pictured up front: Wendy VanDenburgh-Committee Chair; Michelle Fuscoe-Lakehouse Manager; pictured back row, left to right: Sandi Scalise-Committee Co-chair: Dawn DeLaFuente. Kathv Velgos, Shannon Benko, Lori O'Malley, Jessica Dempsey, Trina Kelsey, Jessica Crane, and Peggy Kozlowski.





POA Board Looking for Covenant Revision Committee Members

The Lakes of the Four Seasons POA Board of Directors is looking for Property Owners in good standing to become members of the Covenant Revision Committee.

The committee will comprise of no more than seven Property Owners.

The purpose of this committee will be to review, make changes or additions to the current Restrictive Covenants.

Once revisions are completed, they must be voted for by those persons who

then are the owners of forty percent of the numbered lots of the subdivision to be approved.

If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee, please contact the POA office at 219-988-2581 or email the Community Manager at cmgr@lofs.org and give us your name, lot number or address and your contact information.

The deadline for submitting your request to be on this committee is Wednesday, February 7, 2024.

Operations Department

A reminder about LOFS snow removal procedures By Roy Green,

Operations Director

The Lakes of the Four Seasons Operations Department wants residents to be cautious and prepared during the winter season. The department's snow removal procedures are as follows:

• Plow and salt trucks are used when the conditions deem it necessary. The Security Department is to contact the on-call maintenance personnel of bad road conditions during off hours

between the hours of 4 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. weekdays, on weekends and holidays.

- Plowing will continue until midnight and begin again at 4 a.m. on weekdays. **Priorities**
- Front Entrance, N.L.S.D., 117th Ave. Automated Entrance, Kingsway Dr., W.L.S.D., Porter County Automated Entrance, Four Seasons Parkway.
- Forest Lane, Sunnyslope Dr., E.L.S.D., Green Valley Dr., Hidden Valley Dr.
- All remaining roads.
- Cul-de-sacs, Seasons

Lakehouse parking lots and 19th Hole parking lots. • Seasons Lakehouse sidewalks

and 19th Hole sidewalks.

The Lakes of the Four Seasons Operations Department and employees will not be held responsible for any damages to mailboxes or stands that are already in disrepair.

The Operations Department requests the following from drivers and residents:

- Yield the right of way to the plow and salt trucks for your safety and the operator's safety.
- Vehicles must not be parked on or along roadways and cul-de-sacs. The Operations Department needs as much open area as possible to place the snow

and to maneuver through the narrow roadways.

- Please do not put snow from your driveway into the streets. Frozen snow piles when hit with the plow, could force plow trucks into oncoming traffic.
- Place the snow on the left side (downstream of road traffic) of your driveway as you face it.







Announcing the 2023 Children's Christmas Event:

A Meet and Greet with SANTA!

A fun and free event sponsored by the LOFS Lions

Sunday, December 3, 2023

Guests can come anytime between 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm and meet Santa in the Lakehouse Ballroom

Bring your camera for that special picture with the Jolly Old Elf All kids get a gift from Santa and His Helpers

Kids: Help decorate a giant Christmas card for the reindeer! Take a picture with our angel wings (get on the nice list!) Enjoy live Christmas music! Enter our free prize drawing!

The Lions collect non-perishable food items for local food banks. Kids bringing an item for the food bank get a small gift and extra prize drawing ticket.

Questions??? Guests may call 219 776-3541 (Jackie, Chairperson), or guests can speak with any Lions Member.

Community Manager's Message

By Rick Cleveland, Community Manager

The POA Board of Directors will hold a regular POA meeting on Monday, December 11 with the presentation of the 2024/25 preliminary budget to follow afterwards. The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Seasons Lakehouse ballroom. The second meeting with the proposed budget will be presented on January 8, 2024 with the approval of the budget on January 22, 2024. The board encourages residents' input, so they can assure that the upcoming year is supported for the needs of the community.

Leaf collections will continue until December 13th or until the weather makes

it too difficult to do so. The leaf vacs cannot suck up frozen leaf piles. This is a large task for the residents and the Operations Department to attend to every year and I want to commend everyone for the job you do. Every leaf collected is one more leaf that won't accumulate into the lakes, swales, and culverts.

DO NOT PUSH, BLOW OR PLACE LEAVES INTO ANY OF THE LAKES!

Updated Property Maintenance Resolution

• All Improvements on a numbered residential lot within the Lakes of the Four Seasons including but not limited to: Homes, garages, sheds, gazebos, shelters, pergolas, fences, retaining walls, pools, and decks must be maintained in a neat and safe condition (e.g., must be free of mold, no broken, rotted or missing siding, trim, wood, or windows, no faded or missing paint). All doors must be attached and operable.

- All properties must be mowed and trimmed in a timely fashion as to not become overgrown and unsightly, this includes hard-scaped and landscaped areas, ditches and swales.
- Leaves and branches that have fallen onto your property must not be allowed to accumulate on your property as to become unsightly or allowed to block culverts and drainage swales located on or around your property.
- Residents are not permitted to intentionally blow, push or place leaves, branches, grass clippings & yard waste on vacant properties, neighboring properties, POA owned properties and in ditches or

swales.

- The initial fine for violating this policy falls under all other Covenants/ Bylaws/ Resolutions/Rules of the POA Fine Structure.
- A daily fine of \$50 will be assessed for violation of this policy until brought into compliance.
- If the property owner fails to bring the maintenance of the property into compliance promptly and in no event, shall it take longer than 10 days, the property owners association may elect to hire a contractor to do so, at the cost of the property owner.

Amended and Approved by the POA Board of Directors on 9/25/2023.

Branch collections have been completed for the year so please refrain from placing branches out after the normal collection times.

The only other time the Operations Department will

collect branches from property owners beyond the normal collection time is if a storm event has knocked branches off of your tree. If you do have branches needing collection after a storm event please contact the Operations department at 219-988-4461.

You must contact a contractor to remove your branches or trees from your property for all other reasons. You also have the option to bring your branches to the Operations facility at 3861 Kingsway Drive during normal operating hours.

Live Christmas trees will be collected by the Operations Department starting Tuesday, January 2 until Friday, January 12. Please remove all decorations before placing them on your road berm for collection. Don't wait until the final collection day to place your trees out.

The Operations Department has been marking the

roadway curves and critical areas with stakes before the ground freezes so they can efficiently plow the roads, cul-desacs and parking lots in case of snow. The trucks will be prepared and awaiting our first big snow. I would like to remind residents to please not push or blow snow onto the roads as this only creates a dangerous situation for those driving.

STAY OFF THE ICE

Please stay off the ice and please keep an eye on anyone that you may see walking around or on the ice, including animals. Please contact the Security Department to inform them when you see anyone walking on the ice.

The POA office will be closed the week of December 25th for the holidays and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Board sets Public POA Budget Meetings

The Lakes of the Four Seasons Board of Directors will hold two Public Hearings on the proposed community budget for the year 2024-2025.

The first budget meeting to present a preliminary budget to LOFS residents will be on Monday, December 11 in the Seasons Lakehouse Ballroom following a regular public meeting that be-

gins at 7:30 p.m. The Board will have a second meeting on Monday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Seasons Lakehouse Ballroom to present the proposed budget.

The 2024-2025 budget is set to be approved at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on Monday, January 22. The POA Board is interested in hearing residents' concerns for the coming

LAKES OF THE FOUR SEASONS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

1048 North Lake Shore Drive - Crown Point, IN 46307

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Visit LOFS Web Site at www.lofs.org

LOFS Facebook Page - Lakes of the Four Seasons

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SEASONAL EDITOR

Direct advertising inquiries to:

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year's budget and encourages residents to attend these informative meetings.

Please send your budget requests to the Community Manager, Rick Cleveland at 1048 N. Lake Shore Drive, Crown Point, IN 46307 or by email at cmgr@lofs.org

You may also call the POA office at 219-988-2581 to make your request.

LOFS has an outdoor storage area for property owners

The LOFS, POA has an outdoor storage area capable of storing 50 boats, boat trailers or personal utility trailers for LOFS property owners only. The fee is \$15 per linear foot, per year. You may also store your boat or trailer per month. Please contact the POA office at 219-988-2581 for more information.

Concert at the Seasons Lakehouse Saturday, December 16, 2023 with High Street

Kick off the holiday season at the Lakehouse with an AYCE appetizer buffet, great drinks, a comfortable setting, and musical entertainment with High Street.

Tickets cost \$30 each which includes the appetizer buffet. Tickets are on sale at the POA Office and the Seasons Lakehouse restaurant. You can also call 219-

988-2581 to pay for your tickets over the phone and they will be available at the door the night of the show.

Must be 21 or older to attend. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the concert runs from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

High Street is a "HIGH" energy band playing all of your favorites from the 70s to current Top 40.

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December 2023



Keenagers

The Keen-Agers will be having their December Christmas luncheon on the 21st at the Seasons Lakehouse. The bar will open at noon with a delicious special Prime Rib lunch being served to the 2023 members at 1 p.m. Entertainment will be the Chicago singer of the year on many occasions, Pete Oprisko, who is also Jeanette and Tony's cousin!

A gift exchange, \$20 value will be held; if you bring a gift, you can take a gift off the table that will be set up. There will be a collection for the Winfield Pantry, canned & paper goods can be placed in the foyer area that will be picked up after the meeting.

The club is open to anyone

50 and older, regardless of residency. Membership fee is \$30 due every October, and the monthly luncheon cost is \$20 which includes dessert and tip.

Besides the third Thursday of the month luncheons, except for September and January, the club goes to the Four Winds Casino in Michigan, is planning a Spirit of Chicago boat buffet, and Their Diamond Tour trip next year is on the agenda for Graceland and all Memphis has to offer.

Please contact Renate at willrenate@yahoo.com or call her at 219-689-3408 to make a reservation to preview and join this popular club. Read the Seasonal for

all their latest info and updates and follow them on Facebook to view their fabulous photos and videos.

Thanks to all the Keen-Agers and the LOFS POA Manager, Rick Cleveland, and the food and beverage staff under Michelle Fuscoe for "Keeping up with the Keen-Agers".

- President, Renate Sahulcik
- Vice-President, Travel & Entertainment Director, Jeanette Stolarz
- Assistant, Jennifer Golembieski
- Treasurer & Email
- Director, Alice Barcomb
- Secretary, ETC., Trudy
- Caller Directors, Deb & Mike Vega
- Casino Director, Sue
- Kalinowski
- Facebook & Contest Director, Lynda Gustafson

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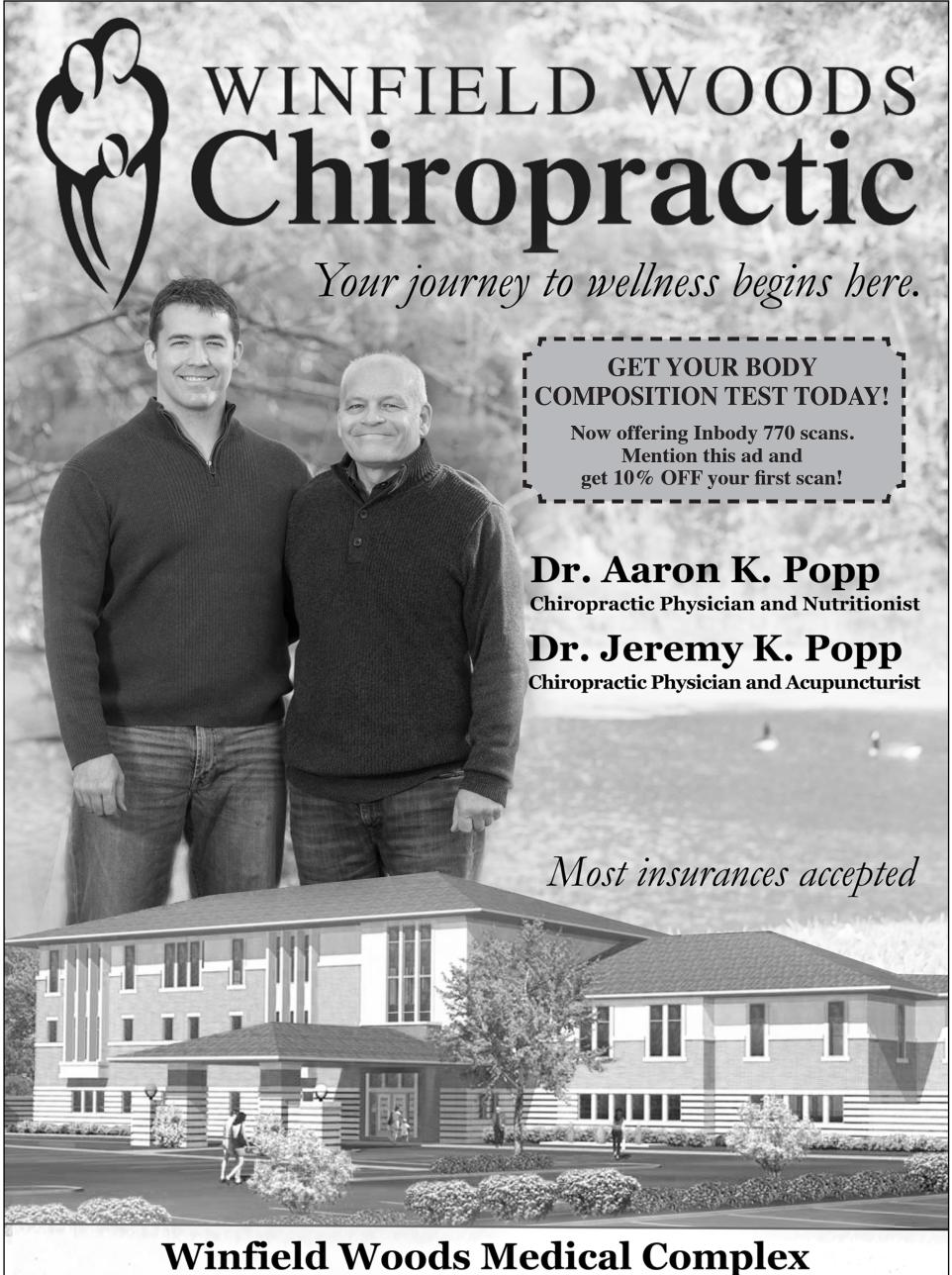
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Across the street from Lakes of the Four Seasons

Ancient Indian burial mounds prevented a landfill near Boone Grove in the early 2000s

By Walt Pluchinsky, LOFS Historical Society

Recently, this writer gave a talk

to the community about the many old pioneer cemeteries in our area, which included a brief description of ancient Indian burial mounds near Boone Grove. It was suggested that this information be incorporated into an article for our Seasonal.

As early as the 1840s, as the early pioneers settled in Porter County, there were reports of Indian villages, trails, burial grounds, campsites, and mounds. At the time of settlement by the whites, the Potawatomi Indians were in possession of the region. As time progressed and as more farms developed, some of these artifacts were destroyed or altered by repeated plowing of the fields, or trampled by cattle, or by the development of roads. At least 42 mounds were reported to be in the county.

Several early surveys in the county were made in the late 1890s by a state geologist, W. S. Blatchley, who published a report describing numerous mounds near Boone Grove, including comments on excavations and archaeological remains.

More extensive surveys were made by the state geologist Gilbert McAllister in the early 1930s, using information from the earlier survey. He described 36 archaeological sites in the county (Indian camp sites, burial grounds, mounds, and villages), including 11 mounds just east of Boone Grove. The largest was the Wark Mound, named for the farm where it was located, and the largest in the county. It measured just over 100 ft. in diameter and was about 16 ft. high before excavation. Numerous Indian artifacts, including pottery and skeletons, were found in excavations of various mounds.

Subsequent investigations revealed that these mounds were created by the Hopewell Indian culture, who roamed east-central North America from about 200 BC to about 500 AD. The name is derived from the owner of a farm in south central Ohio, where these mounds were first discovered. It should be noted that many Indian burial mounds have been found, with some from other cultures, in the eastern United States, including Indiana. The Mounds State Park near Kokomo Indiana and the large Cakohia Mounds near St. Louis are examples.

Indian burial These grounds remained forgotten until the early 2000s, when an anonymous group of investors from the Duneland area started to buy farmland east of Boone Grove. After it was discovered that the land was to be converted to a landfill, area residents protested, obtained legal assistance, and formed a group called PROUD (Porter Residents to Unhealthy Opposed Dumps). Today, the area remains as farmland. The defeat of the landfill was no doubt because the land contained Indian burial grounds. Nobody, but nobody, disturbs

an Indian burial ground.

This writer, accompanied by several others, made a visit to the site of the Indian mounds east of Boone Grove, hoping to find them. Using plat-maps and specific locations described in McAllister's report, the group was not able to defi-

nitely identify any mounds, and we did not venture further onto private property. We did, however, let our imaginations get the best of us. Digressing a bit, we do thank those nameless Indians of long ago for preventing a nearby landfill.



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Indiana's Hunt for Hunger will feed hungry Hoosiers

Indiana First Lady
Janet Holcomb recently
joined the Department of
Natural Resources (DNR)
at Gleaners Food Bank of
Indiana to let hunters know
how they can help hungry
Hoosiers. This reminder
comes as deer firearms hunting season begins and the
need for protein donations
remains strong across the
state.

Updated this year with a new name and website, Indiana Hunt for Hunger turns donated deer into healthy venison that is provided to Hoosiers through food banks like Gleaners across the state.

"Indiana Hunt for Hunger combines two time-honored Hoosier traditions—deer hunting and helping our neighbors in need," said Holcomb. "As you're out hunting across Indiana

this season, if you're lucky enough to harvest a deer, or possibly even two, please consider donating it to be turned into healthy venison for Hoosiers experiencing hunger."

The program, previously called the Sportsmen's Benevolence Fund, was started by the Indiana DNR and its partners in 2008. Since then, it has grown across the state to collect thousands of deer donations, providing hundreds of thousands of meals for Hoosiers.

"Too many Hoosiers are struggling to put food on the table. Our member food banks around the state are serving record numbers of families," said Emily Weikert Bryant, executive director of Feeding Indiana's Hungry. "Items like protein can be unaffordable on a tight household budget, creating a high demand for it at our food banks. By hunters taking an extra deer and donating it through Hunt for Hunger, Hoosier food banks and pantries will have more healthy protein to share with our friends and neighbors this deer season."

To better explain the program's vital mission and spur even greater participation, it's now called Indiana Hunt for Hunger, with continuing partnerships with Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry, the Dubois County Sportsmen's Club, and Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry.

"Donations can make a huge difference because the meat from one deer can provide 200 meals for a family," said Dan Bortner, DNR director. "One Hoosier hunter can make an incredible difference."

Here's how it works. Hunters take their field-dressed harvested deer to one of more than 50 participating meat processing sites across the state. The processor takes it from there, processing the meat into healthy venison burgers and donating it to area food banks. Indiana Hunt for Hunger pays the processing fees, so there is no extra cost to the hunter.

"Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry sincerely appreciates the past financial support provided by the Indiana DNR's Sportsmen's Benevolence Fund," said Suzie Jordan, executive director of Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry. "This support has allowed our agency to pay for the deer harvested as part of our program to be processed and provided to food banks and pantries throughout the state. Over 500,000 pounds of venison has been shared through this partnership. As the name changes to Hunt for Hunger, we can increase the awareness of the partnership between our nonprofit agency and the Indiana DNR to strengthen and expand the knowledge of our mission to Hoosier hunters, our processors, and food banks throughout the state."

A list of participating vendors is posted at www. on.IN.gov/huntforhunger. Processors interested in joining the list can contact Capt. Jet Quillen at jquillen@dnr. IN.gov or 317-232-0658 for more information.



Fall/Winter Hours: Monday - Thursday 3-9pm Friday & Saturday 11am - 9pm • Sunday 11am - 8pm 988-2282 restmgr@lofs.org

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House and Garden Club

By Mary Cavallini

The reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more. ~ Jonas Salk

Heartfelt thanks and appreciation of the membership goes to its outgoing Officers: JoEllen Simoni, President; Patricia German, Vice President; Mary Schick, Secretary; and Mary Grveles, Treasurer. These women took office at the beginning of the Covid quarantine and worked closely together to keep the club together and as engaged with one another as possible.

When finally able to gather as a group again, they took every precaution to ensure everyone's safety and protection. And just when their two-year term ended and they could finally take time to breathe, they agreed to serve for a second term. Under their leadership the club has flourished: more members, secure finances, and a bright future. That is their legacy. Thank you.

Special thanks to Char Bolka and Sherry Gasparovic who also served on the Board during the past four years.

Installation of place at Officers takes the Christmas Luncheon Thursday, December 7: Mary Grveles, President; Elizabeth Garmon and Cindy Young, Co-Vice Presidents; Mariann Straw, Secretary; and Susan Silverstein, Treasurer. Godspeed, ladies.

It hasn't been all patting each other on the back and congratulations though. Members have for years been responsible for decorating the Lakehouse for the holidays and more recently have been decorating the 19th Hole as well. What a big job! One the strings of lights, garland and other glittery, glimmering things that make the holiday bright. All members are invited to help, and, with the assistance of the POA maintenance staff, they definitely create magic. Mary Grveles chairs the Lakehouse committee and Pat German the 19th Hole.

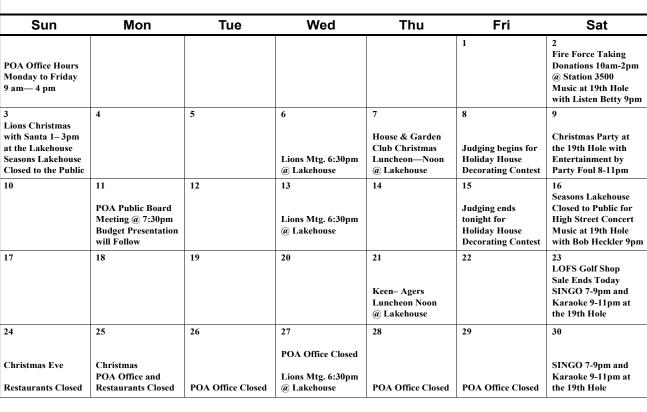
Members and all that they do for this club and their community are so very appreciated. Everyone participates, serving on a committee, contributing to potluck luncheons, sharing ideas, supporting fundraisers and so much more.

Finally, thank you to LOFS



The Lakes of the Four Seasons House and Garden Club wants to let those who decorate inside their homes for the holidays share that beauty. All you need to do is post your pictures on the House and Garden Facebook page. Let's see all the creativity of

the residents in Lakes of the Four Seasons. whole morning is devoted to residents for your support of "fluffing", straightening out our efforts. **Speeders Beware!** POA - December 2023



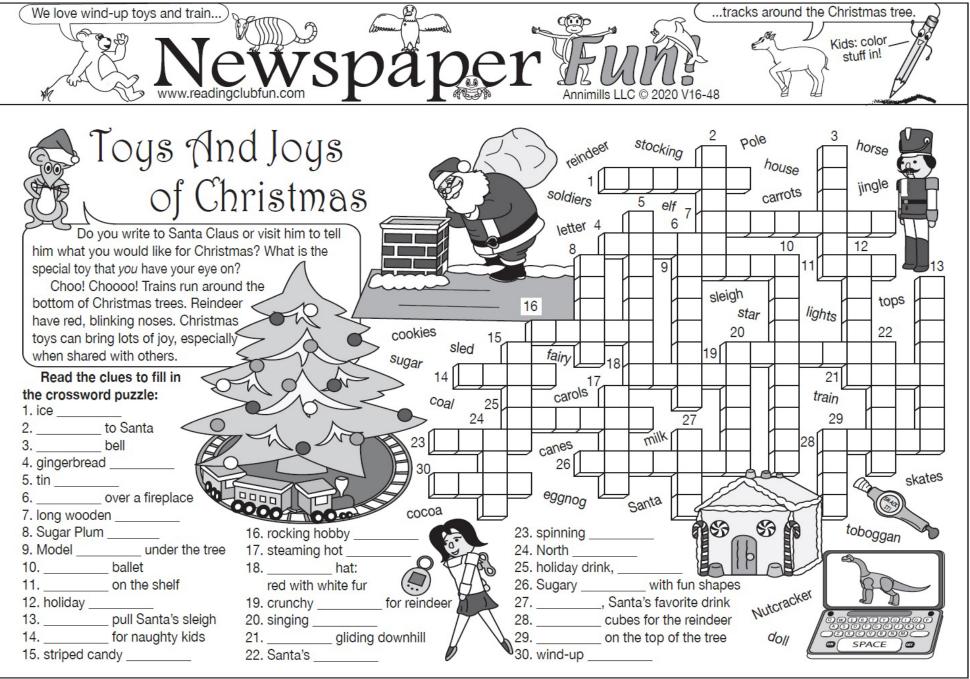
We deeply value the safety and well-being of all LOFS residents and

Speeding throughout the community will not be tolerated. The speed limit for all of the roads inside the Lakes of the Four Seasons is 20 miles

guests!

per hour unless otherwise posted.





LOFS Fire Force

The Lakes of the Four Seasons Volunteer Fire Force will be running our 16th Annual Stop, Drop and Donate on Saturday, December 2 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The program was born in December of 2008 during the Christmas season when our Fire Chief received a call that one of our local pantries was almost empty. We have continued this tradition every year since and have added multiple subdivisions along the way.

This year after the over-

whelming success of our modification last year, we are going to have both counties drop off their donations at Station 3500 (745 W 275 S Hebron, IN 46341) from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 2, where you can visit with the Grinch, Cindy Lou Who, or Santa as you drop off your donations. You can also mail or drop off a check to 745 W 275 S Hebron, IN 46341 or use PayPal if you want to make a monetary donation for Stop Drop & Donate. Paypal : Fundrasing@lofsfire.com.

Please put in the comments STOP DROP DONATE.

All donations will be taken to the respective food pantry (either Lake County or Porter County) to benefit less fortunate families in the communities the fire department

If you would like to help serve your community, the Lakes of the Four Seasons Volunteer Fire Force is currently recruiting new and experienced volunteer firefighters. For information about how to apply, visit www.lofsfire.com

Questions? Feel free to message us directly, call us @ 219-662-7576 Ext # 7 for Fundraising.



Indiana Conservation Officers urge Hoosiers to practice ice safety: 'No ice is safe ice

Indiana Conservation Officers advise being mindful of the potential hazards of frozen lakes, ponds, rivers and streams.

It's also important to keep a watchful eye on neighborhood retention ponds, lakes and other waterways for others who may venture out and find themselves in trouble.

Every winter, thousands of Hoosiers safely enjoy fishing, skating, hiking, or

just sliding around on frozen ponds and lakes. And every year, people drown after falling through ice.

Just like driving differently on snow versus clear roads, some may need to re-learn how to safely have fun on ice.

Put safety first. The best rule of thumb is, when thinking about getting on the ice, believe it is thin ice unless proven otherwise.

Here are a few tips to re-

member when considering standing on or walking on a frozen lake or pond:

- No ice is safe ice.
- Test the thickness of the ice with an ice auger. At least 4 inches of ice is recommended for ice fishing; 5 inches is recommended for snowmo-
- If you don't know the thickness of the ice, don't go on it.
- Wear life jackets or flotation

- Carry ice hooks and rope gear.
- Before going on the ice, leave a note of your whereabouts with a friend or family member.
- Don't test the thickness of the ice while alone.

Wearing a life jacket is especially important when on the ice. If you fall through, a life jacket will keep your head above the water until help arrives.

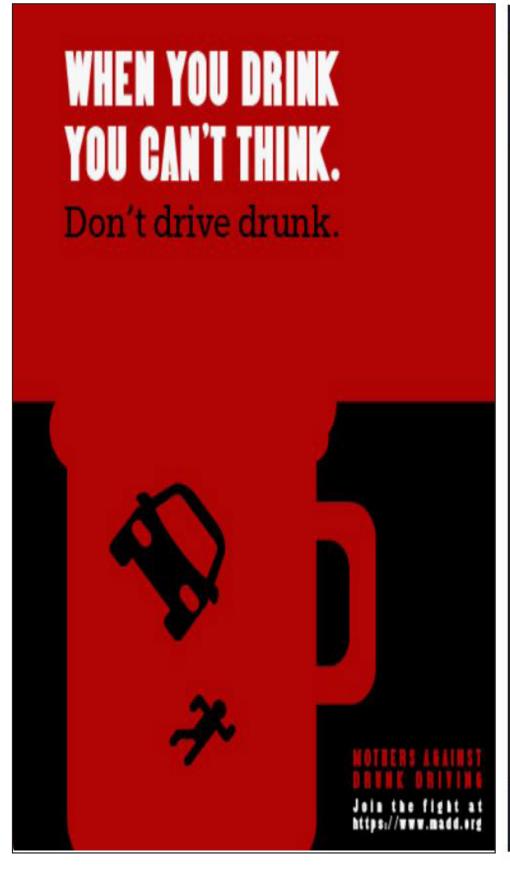
Snow can insulate ice, causing it to freeze at a slower rate. When snow and rain freeze into ice, it is never as strong as solid, clear ice.

If you see a pet or other animal in distress on the ice, do not go after it. Doing so can often end in tragedy. Instead, contact your local emergency response personnel, who are equipped to make a rescue.

Some bodies of water will appear to be frozen solid but

actually can have thin ice in several potentially unexpected areas. Flowing water, such as rivers and streams, should be avoided when covered by a layer of ice. Water that is surrounded by sand may freeze with inconsistencies in the thickness of the ice.

Underground springs, wind, waterfowl, and other animals can also keep areas of ice thin.





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located on Serene LAKEFRONT, Located in LOFS, a resort style com-

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