



Seasonal

Publication of the Lakes of the Four Seasons Property Owners Association November 2019



LOFS honors Employees of the Year Torreson and Ecklund

Employees of the Year Salena Torreson (pictured at left) from the 19th Hole and Timburley Ecklund (at right) from the POA Maintenance Department pose with Community Manager Rick Cleveland upon receiving their awards.



Nelson named 'Volunteer of the Year'

This past summer Bunny Nelson volunteered her time to help the Maintenance Department by maintaining the 16 large flower pots on the patio. She watered them daily and treated for bugs as needed. Without her help Kim and Timburley from the Maintenance Department would not have been able to spend as much time and focus on the landscapes throughout the community.



Thomason recognized for 40 years of service to LOFS

Dora Thomason has worked in the Public Safety department for the past 40 years. She began her employment on July 22, 1979. Thank you for your service.

Katz, Zupan sworn in at Annual Meeting



By Kim Brownlee,
Election Committee Chair
Only two individuals submitted Candidates Petition Forms for the two vacant openings. Jaqueline Katz

and Brad Zupan were sworn in at the Annual Meeting on October 12 in the Seasons Lakehouse ballroom. I would like to thank the following committee members

for volunteering their time; Beverly Bashia, Sharron Blue, Linda Mason, Beverly Nowicki, Lori O'Malley, Carol Thorsen, Cindy Weiss, and Barb Wood.

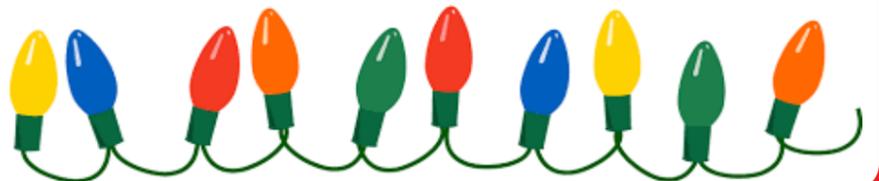
LOFS residents, get ready for the annual HOME HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST 2019

- All LOFS homes are eligible.
- Exterior decorations only will be judged.
- All holiday adornments (any religious persuasion) will be considered.
- Judging will be underway beginning Monday, December 9th and conclude Saturday, December 14th!
- The judges' decisions are final.

- **First Prize:** \$100 LOFS gift certificate
- **Second Prize:** \$75 LOFS gift certificate
- **Third Prize:** \$50 LOFS gift certificate
- **Fourth Prize:** \$25 LOFS gift certificate

Prizes will be awarded prior to Christmas Eve. Winners will also receive their own "15 Minutes of Fame". The prize-winning homes will be featured in the Seasonal.

* If you would like to nominate a home you think deserves consideration please call the POA Office at 988-2581 by noon on Monday, December 9th



Trash & Recycling containers cannot be placed out before 6 pm the evening before collection and must be stored away by midnight the day of collection.

Limited Boat and Trailer Storage Available in LOFS

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 trailer per month. Please contact the POA office at 219-988-2581 for more information.

POA Community Manager Annual Report

By Rick Cleveland,
Community Manager

It has been a challenging but a very productive year at the Lakes of the Four Seasons.

The General Administration Department continues to serve the residents through the POA Office. The office staff prepares documents for the sale of properties. They calculate the sales of all amenity purchases such as stickers for vehicles, boats, golf carts, and dog park tags.

The office staff also calculates, processes, and files every invoice for each purchase that is made by each department. They answer countless numbers of phone calls. They are always willing to answer questions or find answers for you. We continue to work with the POA attorneys on the collection of delinquent dues and other important POA matters.

In the Lakes Department, last year's whole lake treat-

ment of nuisance weeds was very beneficial, not only for the lakes but for the Lakes Department. The department was able to focus on other matters including the use of new chemicals to control the Blue Green algae on Big Bass Lake and the difference was noticeable. The treatments will continue on that lake next year and will begin to take place on Lake on the Green. Recently the engineering firm began surveying the sediment depths and volumes in specific areas on Big Bass Lake and Lake Holiday. This useful information will not only tell us how much sediment has entered into these areas since the last survey in 2001 but can be used to get budget numbers for spot dredging if necessary.

The only major issue that the golf course, the parks, and the green space areas encountered this past season was the late thaw and the over-abundance of spring



Rick Cleveland

rains with no time periods in between to dry out. The grass grew incredibly well; but the maintenance crews just couldn't get equipment in the areas to cut it. It took a little more time to clean up the grass, but the departments persevered and got the job completed and were able to get the mowing season back on track.

The Operations and Building Maintenance departments, a couple of our most active departments, continue with their daily maintenance of the common areas and POA buildings and structures as well as many new projects. Both departments had a very active sea-

son. As usual the crews did a great job setting up and cleaning up after the concerts and the 4th of July event and the mowing and trimming of the parks and common areas.

The combined Food and Beverage departments did not hit their budget when the fiscal year ended on February 28, 2019 again. The revenues and cost of goods sold remained level to the numbers from the prior year. The operating expenses increased and those are the numbers we continue to monitor and need to keep under control. To date combined revenues are slightly up, cost of goods sold are down, and operating expenses are slightly down. That trend needs to continue if they want to hit their mark at the end of the fiscal year.

The Public Safety Department continues with their day-to-day activities of checking in guests, patrolling the community, answering calls 24/7, and responding to emergencies, regardless of what is going on with the state, and will continue to do so.

This year our covenant inspector performed a weekly inspection of all properties

within the community. In that time the following citations were mailed to property owners in the form of a warning letter: 301 for trash cans that were visible from a street, lake, or the golf course; 11 for signs in yard; 100 for yard maintenance which included high grass, weeds and trash; 103 for homes in disrepair, which included mold stains, siding, and roof issues; and 38 for no house numbers or not visible from the street.

Most citations were corrected after receiving the first warning letter. The rest were given a timeline to correct the issue and if not completed

were issued fines.

During the next couple of months, the Department Managers, Board of Directors, and I will be working on the 2020-21 budget. The department directors and I will be obtaining estimates for various projects and equipment purchases so we can put budget numbers together and as always, we will do our best to get reasonable prices.

I would like to thank all the employees of Lakes of the Four Seasons and the POA Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication over the past year.

Board sets public POA budget meetings; first one on December 9

The Lakes of the Four Seasons Board of Directors will hold two Public Hearings on the proposed community budget for the year 2020-21.

The first budget meeting to present a preliminary budget to LOFS residents will be on Monday, December 9, in the Seasons Lakehouse Ballroom following a regular public meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. The Board will have a second meeting

on Monday, January 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Seasons Lakehouse Ballroom to present the proposed budget.

The 2020-21 budget is set to be approved at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on Monday, January 27. The POA Board is interested in hearing residents' concerns for the coming year's budget and encourages residents to attend these informative meetings.

POA's Treasurer's Annual Report

By Jay Robison,
POA Treasurer

This report covers our fiscal year, which ended February 28, 2019.

For the year, our total revenue was \$5,563,651 vs. the prior year of \$5,454,860. Our total expenses were \$5,677,789 vs. prior year of \$5,201,237. Our combined

total fund balance, or equity, decreased from \$5,451,942 in 2018 to \$5,346,768 year-over-year.

We ended the year with unrestricted cash of \$540,086 vs. \$868,115 prior year. The decrease of unrestricted cash was primarily due to a combination of using more cash to pay for equipment and capital improvement projects, overages in the budget, and \$50,000 was in a short-term investment account.

This Board continues to help property owners make their annual assessments such as offering quarterly-payment plans, half-payment plans, and accepting payments by credit cards. At the end of the last fiscal year we had 48 property owners that did not make any payment of their dues.

Our office staff and attorney continue to communicate to those that are delinquent and work on getting their assessments paid in full. On occasion, when this does not happen, the POA is forced to file liens and or foreclosures. This is necessary to help protect the association's property values, including your homes.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the employees of LOFS for all the work they do for the community. I want to thank my fellow Board members for their service. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Board Treasurer.

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Submit content to news@lofsseasonal.com

Direct advertising inquiries to:

Region Communications, Inc. 219-662-8888 or email news@lofsseasonal.com

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The Seasonal is published monthly by authority of the Lakes of the Four Seasons Property Owners Association, Inc.





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LOFS Fundraising Committee Annual Report

The LOFS Fundraising Committee formed in 2001, just completed its 18th year fundraising for our community. Our committee this past year was composed of ten hardworking individuals and a few helpers, on occasion, who volunteered their time to fundraise and put back into the community in the form of community enhancements and increased revenues.

We would like to thank the community for their continued support in all of our fundraising endeavors this past year. Funds were raised through our much-loved Comedy Nights (5); selling glow merchandise, candy, and popcorn at the 12 summer concerts, and our popular Annual Spring Fashion show-luncheon. Through these events this past year we were able to raise over \$25,000 bringing our total to \$209,000 raised year to date since inception in 2001.

Our completed pool project was unveiled at the official opening of the pool on Memorial Day weekend this year. We have received so many positive comments from the community on all the enhancements. We are

appreciative of all the comments and were happy to enhance a popular amenity. The pool enhancements included five colorful murals, a new fun outdoor clock, umbrellas, pool shade flags, splash signage on the building, and landscaping around the entire building. In addition, to protect our enhancements, we paid for the addition of new gutters and downspouts. Thank you to our Community Manager, Rick Cleveland, Roy Green and his staff and to the wonderful team of Kim White and Timburley Ecklund for all their help with this project.

Going forward, we have many projects in the works and some already completed: We assisted the Seasons Lakehouse with paying for the photography in order to promote this amenity to the public for future events; have completed the beautification-landscaping on tee box #5; and worked with the Fire Auxiliary to publish the new phone directory that was given as a gift when you paid your POA dues.

Additional projects slated for our dollars raised are: Purchase of outdoor furni-

ture: couches, chairs, tables for the Lakehouse; new décor for the entrance way to the Lakehouse as well as new outdoor carpet; new draperies and valances for the Lakehouse windows; and lastly, the purchase of a New Cleveland Park sign.

We plan on meeting with our Community Manager and POA Board to obtain additional project ideas going into 2020.

We have come a long way from our first donation of emergency equipment for the security boat in 2001. In order to showcase these projects and inform the community of what the committee has accomplished, we are developing a LOFS Fundraising plaque to highlight all of our projects completed since 2001. This plaque will be pictured on the LOFS website, our FB page at Lofs fundraisers; as well as displayed near the POA Office.

Our new 2019-20 fundraising year kicked off with the first of six comedy nights on September 20. Our comedy nights will be held the third Friday of the month in September, October, and November. We will then be back to ring in the New Year in January, February, and March for the remaining comedy events. We are currently already working and shopping for our Spring 2020

Style show and luncheon.

Lastly, as a committee, we are excited to be judging the holiday light displays again this year throughout the community. We have some great prizes, so watch your Seasonal for details. Remember: Nominate your neighbors or nominate yourself!

We are a great group of 'fun' ladies and are always looking for new members who would like to join us in our efforts. For additional information on committee events, to join our committee or to give feedback, you can find us on Facebook at Lofs fundraisers or visit us on the community website at www.lofs.org.

We would like to take this time to give a special thank you to our Community Manager, Rick Cleveland, and his staff as well as our POA board members for always supporting our fundraising efforts and events. A thank you to Ramiro Jimenez and his Lakehouse staff, Kim and Timburley - for their landscaping expertise, and to Roy Green and his maintenance crew for always assisting us with whatever we need. We appreciate all of you! Last but not least, a **Big Thank You To** our LOFS Community for continuing to support our efforts!

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Fire Force Annual Report

By Phil Buckingham,
President, and Jason Gikas,
Fire Chief

The Lakes of the Four Seasons Volunteer Fire Force was founded in 1969 and has been proudly serving the Lakes of the Four Seasons and other surrounding communities. As you know in 2019, we celebrated our 50th Anniversary.

Chief Jason Gikas and myself, a fellow LOFS resident and LOFSVFF Board President, Phil Buckingham are pleased to report the following: Since our founding, we have provided fire and emergency responses and in 1999, we added 24/7 Advanced Life Support Medical services as part of our mission to better serve the residents and families during an emergency. We provide our services from two fire stations, supplemented by 32 volunteers and a 24/7 paid EMS staff to an estimated 15,000+ residents and cover approximately 30+ square mile area straddling two counties.

When we began, we only had maybe a handful of calls for service per year, yet once again we are on track to respond to another record-breaking year. Where we are, expecting over 1,300+ calls for service in 2019. In addition to Fire and EMS Services, we provide many additional services that benefit our residents:

- We host annual fire prevention week education to our

local schools.

- Host fire station/safety house tours
- Certify LOFS Public Safety and other community members with American Heart Association CPR/AED training
- Lead the 4th of July parade with LOFS Public Safety
- Provide Fire Protection for our POA 4th of July fire-works
- Provide Fire Inspections and request fire investigations
- Train with the use of real-world scenarios to keep our members in a constant state of readiness
- In addition to all of these services, our fire station near Cleveland Park was built with a back-up generator and kitchen facilities to be utilized as a community shelter during the event of a large storm or winter storm.
- Offer a smoke alarm installation program funded by the state of Indiana.

All of these services are provided by dedicated volunteers who provided countless hours of training and service to their community. Many of these volunteers live inside The Lakes of the Four Seasons.

However, we still provide Fire and EMS services to our community members outside of the gates, anytime they have an emergency in our service area or when call outside of our area for mutual-aid.

Our financial support pays

for things such as: Payroll, Apparatus, Insurance, Equipment, Maintenance, Utilities and Facilities. Some of the financial support comes from LOFSVFF and LOFS Fire Auxiliary Fundraisers, such as:

- Crazy Bunco
- 5K Run/Walk May
- Annual Pancake breakfast
- Annual Gala
- Annual Golf Outing (Held here on our own golf course)
- 50th Anniversary Celebration
- Various Boot drives and 4th of July Collection

Additionally, we are supplemented by three governmental agencies:

- West Porter FPD
- Winfield Township
- Town of Winfield

Our annual budget is approximately \$800,000 with the largest expense being:

- 24/7 Advanced Life Support Staff
- Facility & Apparatus Loan Payments
- Maintenance and insurance.

However, surrounding local government provides only approximately 65% of our income. For the rest we turn to donations, fundraisers, and grants. In fact, this year we have secured grants for about \$265,000. The majority of this is going to purchase updated SCBA's to replace our 15-year-old SCBA's that are at the end of their lifecycle.

We come to you today to ask for your continued financial support to supplement our income to better provide our continued Fire, EMS and community education services. For 2020 we hope you will consider continuing your

generous support of \$25,000 to start out our next 50 years of service to the community, for a few special reasons:

- On the Porter County Side of LOFS, we rely on WPTFPD for government support for fire protection, however we do not receive any additional funding for EMS services, because Porter County EMS funding still goes to Porter EMS. We have engaged with Porter County Government to resolve the issue; but it is still an ongoing discussion with Porter County and they foresee pulling all support for ambulances. We provide three Advanced Life Support Ambulances, that require a part-time paid Paramedic and EMT to staff, regular vehicle maintenance and medical supplies in order to respond to our community when needed.

- In 2019 LOFS Fire underwent an ISO Audit, we have just recently found out that we have improved our score from an ISO Rating of 6 to an ISO Rating of 4. This can translate to lower fire protection insurance rates through-

out the LOFS community.

- Most importantly we want you to know that with your continued support; our funding request will be utilized to the best of its ability. We will strive to stretch every dollar to its full potential. In 2019 we were able to purchase close to \$40,000 of equipment due to your contribution of \$25,000. We achieved this by planning ahead and purchasing items that were on sale due to demo and trade show specials. We even obtained other available grants to help provide more purchasing power to receive additional volume discounts.

In 2019 the following items were purchased directly due to LOFS donations of \$25,000:

- 2 - MSA EVOLUTION 6000 Plus Thermal Imaging Camera
- These allow firefighters to see in smoke filled environments
- Find fire that maybe hidden inside a wall.

- 11 - Unication G5 Dual Band Pagers VHF - 7/800mhz with 3-year war-

ranty

- 4 - Additional through a grant (giving us 15 in total)
- These help improve communications from our dispatch centers to firefighters.
- 4 - Survitec Ice Rescue Suits
- Allow firefighter to safely enter cold water conditions.
- Numerous Red Head brand hose couplings
- Specially to be used on LOFS dry Hydrants (Which allows water to be taken of the lakes. These also played a role in reducing the ISO rating.)
- For 2020 we already have many needs with both fire-fighting and EMS equipment. We will work just as hard this year to maximize your donation as we did in 2019.

These needs include replacing old sections of hose, telemetry equipment for tracking firefighters inside of a house fire, or an updated cardiac monitor.

We, as a department, want to thank you in advanced for your consideration of our request of \$25,000 for 2020.

St. Mary's school hosting 58th annual spaghetti supper on November 13

St. Mary's School will host its 58th annual Spaghetti Supper on Wednesday, November 13. The school is located at 405 East Joliet Street in Crown Point.

The meal includes a generous serving of spaghetti, Caesar salad, Italian bread, dessert, and coffee or milk.

Ticket prices are, \$6 for senior citizens, \$8 for adults age 15-59 and \$6 for children 5-14; children 4 and younger eat free.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling the school at 219-663-0676. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and supper from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Drive-through service is available; call ahead for or-

ders of ten or more. Delivery service is also available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for those who have a place of business in the Crown Point area and would prefer to dine in for lunch. There is a five-order minimum for this free delivery service.

To request a delivery service order form, call the school and an order form will be faxed to you, or e-mail mrivera@stmarycp.org.

A piping hot lunch will be delivered by a smiling St. Mary's parent. A popular trend lately has been business owners purchasing spaghetti suppers to treat their office staff. Be sure to attend this iconic Crown Point Community event!

Identification Statement

- A. The Seasonal USPS #130-510
- B. Issue Date: November 2019
- C. Monthly
- D. Issue No 20423
- E. Subscription Price \$1.25 per issue
- F. Office of Publication Lakes of the Four Seasons Property Owners Association, Inc. 1048 North Lake Shore Drive Crown Point, IN 46307
- G. Periodicals Postage Paid at Crown Point, IN 46307
- H. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the SEASONAL, LOFS Property Owners Association 1048 N. Lake Shore Drive Crown Point, IN 46307

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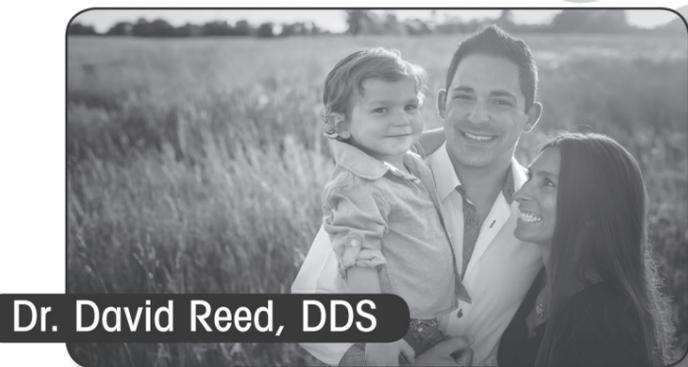
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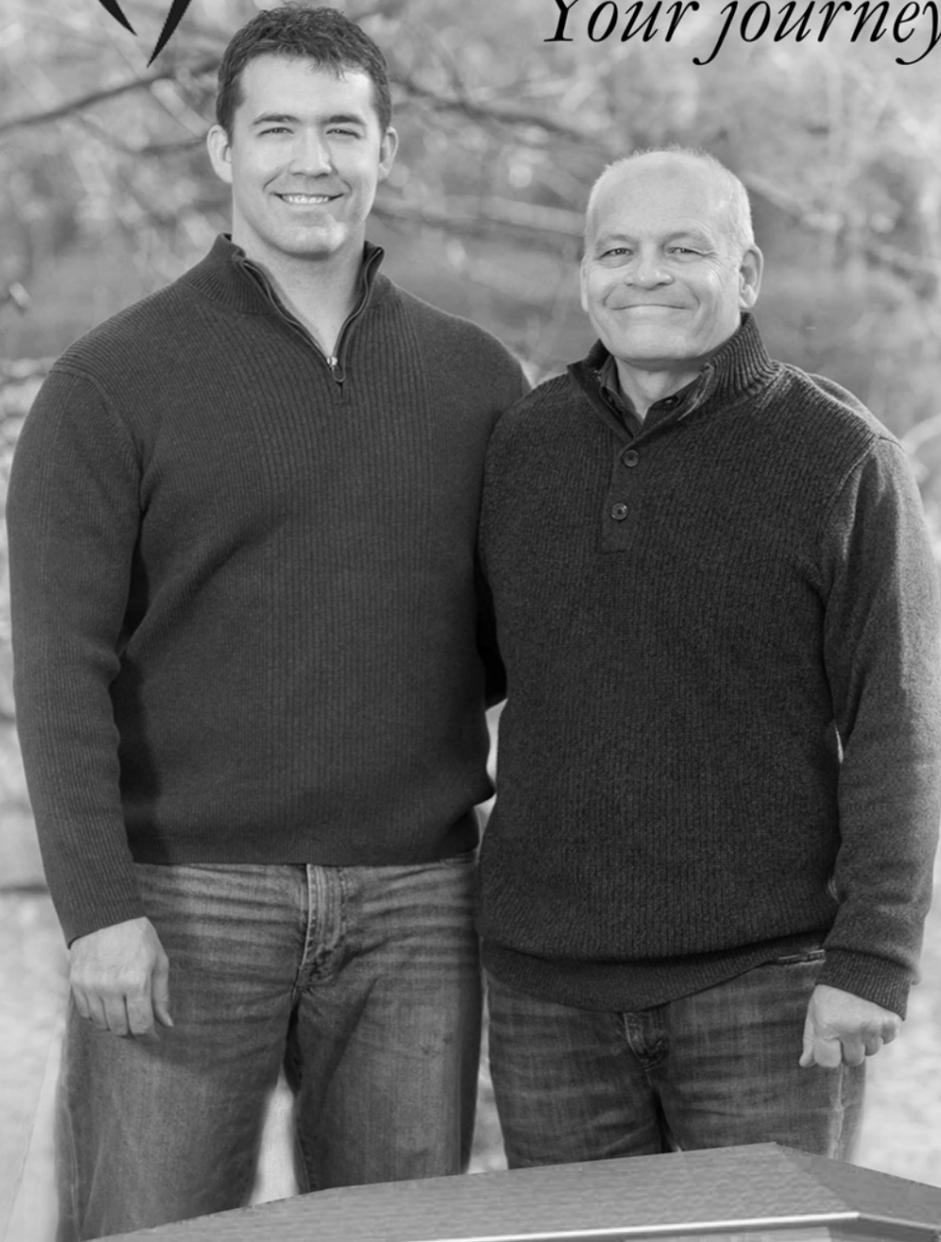
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Golf Maintenance Annual Report

By Doug Weiss,
Golf Course Superintendent

The 2019 golf season has been a rollercoaster ride of weather. The cold, dry start in March and early April allowed us time to remove the dead oak trees from behind the practice putting green.

We were also lucky enough to receive 30 trees from Northwest Indiana Regional

Planning Commission this spring and an additional 28 trees this fall. This is a government agency that allowed us to only plant the trees in the Lake Michigan watershed. That limited us to the back nine. We did have to make a commitment to water the trees every week from when they get leaves in the spring to when they lose their

leaves in the fall.

May and the early part of June the rain seemed like it was never going to stop; 27 of the 31 days in May had measurable rain. This made keeping up with getting the grass cut extremely difficult. The clumps of grass all over the golf course were so bad that we rented a sweeper to pick them up before Member Guest Day.

As the summer went on the rains stopped and July, August, and most of September only had two inches of rain per month.

Last year the greens suf-

fered from the high bicarbonate levels in Lake Holiday. This year we implemented using Humic Acid and a calcium supplement to push the bicarbonates past the root zone. This made a huge difference in the firmness and the speed of the greens.

Fall has arrived and now it is project time. The first one on the list is the drainage project around the number five tee. The soil on the left side was excavated to allow the water to drain toward the ditch by the road. The right side had drain tile installed allowing the water to also

drain toward the street.

Next on the list is the area between the lady's tee and fairway on hole number three. This will help the water drain across the golf course and away from the homes in the area. Following that will be installing the bunker liner in the two bunkers on the right side of hole number one. This is not a long process but has made a huge difference on the two bunkers that already have the liners installed. There are several smaller projects that need to be completed this fall but are too numerous to list.

This year was another successful year controlling the mosquitoes. Ryan Grady and I have been implementing our program to control mosquitoes using larvicide and fogging them on a regular basis.

I would like to thank my staff, Rick Cleveland, POA Board, MGA, and WGA for their continued support and commitment to improving the golf course. Kim and Timburley did another amazing job of maintaining the flowerbeds throughout the community.

Golf Services Annual Report

By Paul Boris,
Director of Golf

As is tradition for me, I'd like to start off by thanking my staff for the tremendous effort they have dedicated to my department and customer services this season. To both my inside and outside hourly staff members, this was a very challenging year for services due to the insane rainfall throughout the month of May followed by an incredible stretch of weather throughout the entire summer; thank you for a terrific job handling the day to day brilliantly.

Thank you, I am proud of my team, and we couldn't do this without your full support and teamwork. Finally, a special thanks to my assistant Tyler Nicol, who has done a terrific job thus far in his role as player development specialist in introducing and instructing new golfers within the community and local region and establishing them within the confines of the community as future prospective golf members.

The trend of new residential golfers moving in the community continues to rise, and likewise many retired golfers of the community are trending moving out to head south; the good and bad is that the trends of new resident golfers moving

in seems to be at a higher rate than those moving out.

This has led to steady increases to membership population, total rounds played on the private sector, and pay-to-play rounds in general outside of weather-impacted periods of the season over a six-year period that we again expect to continue as properties in the community continue to change hands and younger generations of families relocate into Lakes of the Four Seasons.

This golf season, like most area courses, was hit extremely hard in the months of April and May with a very late break to winter temperatures followed by a horrendous rainfall in the month of May, which completely shut most courses down. This has led to an overall decline in daily pay to play green fees and interrupted several outside outings for the season.

By the numbers for the season, total golf membership numbers are again on the rise for a second consecutive year and for five out of the last six years at the golf course. Total adult golfing membership now sits at 304 – up another 11 from last season and the first time in nearly 20 years membership totals have broken through the 300 barrier and we expect steady growth for years to come with our ini-

tatives in place.

Green fee revenues overall this year have been down, largely due to the complete freeze out with the late extended winter into April and a terribly waterlogged May, which is generally the kickoff to the season.

Unfortunately, golf courses are at the mercy of Mother Nature when it comes to making up revenue outside of the private golf sector and this year she delivered a seven ten split that was unrecoverable after driving off a couple early season outings and nearly all pay to play during the season opener. On the positive however, golf membership revenues this year are up for a third consecutive year and five out of the last six seasons and have been a reliable driver of growth of revenue which has been moving in the right direction.

The growth of the game continues to be our major focus for the Golf Services Department as we continue to witness more families and opportunities for potential growth migrating into the community every year. Tyler Nicol, my assistant and player development specialist for golf services is at the core of driving this plan with the desire and background to help spearhead these growth initiatives as they will be a primary driver of financial growth within the next decade or more of future golf community.

New golfers interested in starting the game has grown

tremendously this season, evidenced by the increased numbers of lessons and clinic participants that have taken up the game and continue to learn and grow as new golfers this season. We anticipate this needle to continue to move in a positive direction which is an exciting prospect for the future growth of membership numbers.

The Junior Golf Academy, which is our growth of the game initiative, maintained strong participation and strength in advancement from the juniors in skill and understanding rules situations and etiquette. In addition, our Hooked-on Golf Program, which is our lead-in program for children under the age of 12 and targets children who may have never picked up a club prior to the program saw a large spike in participation this season. We've seen many newer families and children showing interest in golf which is a good sign from both an economical and community growth standpoint.

We have already seen many parents and their children show interest in getting more involved as they speak with us about the junior golf academy for the 2019 season, which we have big plans for as we develop our game plan during this offseason. I would like to personally thank every parent, grandparent, and golf member that helped in a supervisory role this year throughout the junior golf academy. Without

these volunteer supervisor's the academy would not be as education driven and this year had more supervisors than ever before which is fantastic to see the support given to our program.

As the season begins to wind down heading into the winter months, our direction is to continue to develop the master plans for the golf course to address problem areas, additions to update the course for today's game, and renovations to improve drainage from the course, filtering of the waterways to our lakes, and address residential golf course property issues pertaining to this drainage.

The goals of this plan are to develop long-term objectives, identifying, on a timeline, golf course renovations to rehab aging infrastructure to eliminate problem areas on a timeline with a budget cost to each item so the community boards of the future can better plan for expenses and pricing to budgets when these items come up to tackle.

This plan will also develop a procedure on how the golf course will best address any major impact to golf during that season will be addressed to minimize inconvenience to golfers during the process. We hope this will aid future POA and golf boards to stay forward thinking on a consistent path towards and end goal to keep our attractiveness to golfers in our region, staying competitive in golf market and pay to

play greens fees while also improving the community appeal and addressing residential problems.

On a final note, I would like to also give a special thanks to Liz Sturgeon and the Women's Golf Association, as well as Pat Hedge and the Men's Golf Association for their continued support to my operations and the golf course and golfing community. Both of your organizations relationships have been invaluable to management, aiding the direction of programs and policies that have allowed the focus of services and direction of golf course improvements to keep the golfing membership thriving and continue to evolve with each year. It has been a pleasure working with all outgoing officers on both boards, and I welcome the opportunity to work with the newly elected officers during the off-season as we plan for next year's event calendar.

As always, I would like to thank the LOFS community, its residents, the golfing community, Rick Cleveland and the POA Board for the support they have given my staff and I this year. I look forward to the challenges in store and the opportunities for success going into the 2020 season as we plan to introduce new features and programs. I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy upcoming holiday season and safe travels to all snowbirds of the community heading south for winter.

Public Safety Annual Report

By Craig Philp,
Public Safety Director

This past year in the Public Safety Department was business as usual. Officers continued to enforce our rules, covenants, and resolutions throughout the community. This year we've continued to battle the turnover of employees that has left us most of this year shorthanded; and especially during the busy times of the year with our community events.

I want to thank each and every employee within my department for all of the hard work they do on a daily basis. I have staff on both sides of the department that have been there to cover hours for people needing time off or for those shifts left short with help. So again, I say Thank You!

This past year also seemed like the year of 'Gates in Disrepair'. It appeared weekly that we had issues with

one or both automated gates being damaged by a driver or just general breakdowns. We would have companies come out to fix the gate just to have someone break it again that same day. This was aggravating because it pulled an officer from the road for days in order to monitor traffic coming in. There were instances where officers were stopping someone who came in on the wrong side of the road just so they wouldn't have to go to the main gate to sign in. Sad part is most of those caught doing it were residents who just never got a decal or were not current on their dues.

This of course led to our

department taking a beating on what appeared to be a weekly basis from all forms of social media. What most of those people don't know are the actual tasks placed on each of these individuals working. The Security Department helps control the 'ugly' side of the community. What do I mean by 'ugly side'? It's the side where the neighbors fight and argue with each other for whatever reason or dealing with a house or property not being maintained, to the speeding complaints; or miscreants found damaging property not belonging to them, to just name a few.

These employees who have to see almost daily that 'ugly side' still come in with a smile on their face ready to help when needed because they know it's part of the job tasked to them and they do it so you don't have to see that side.

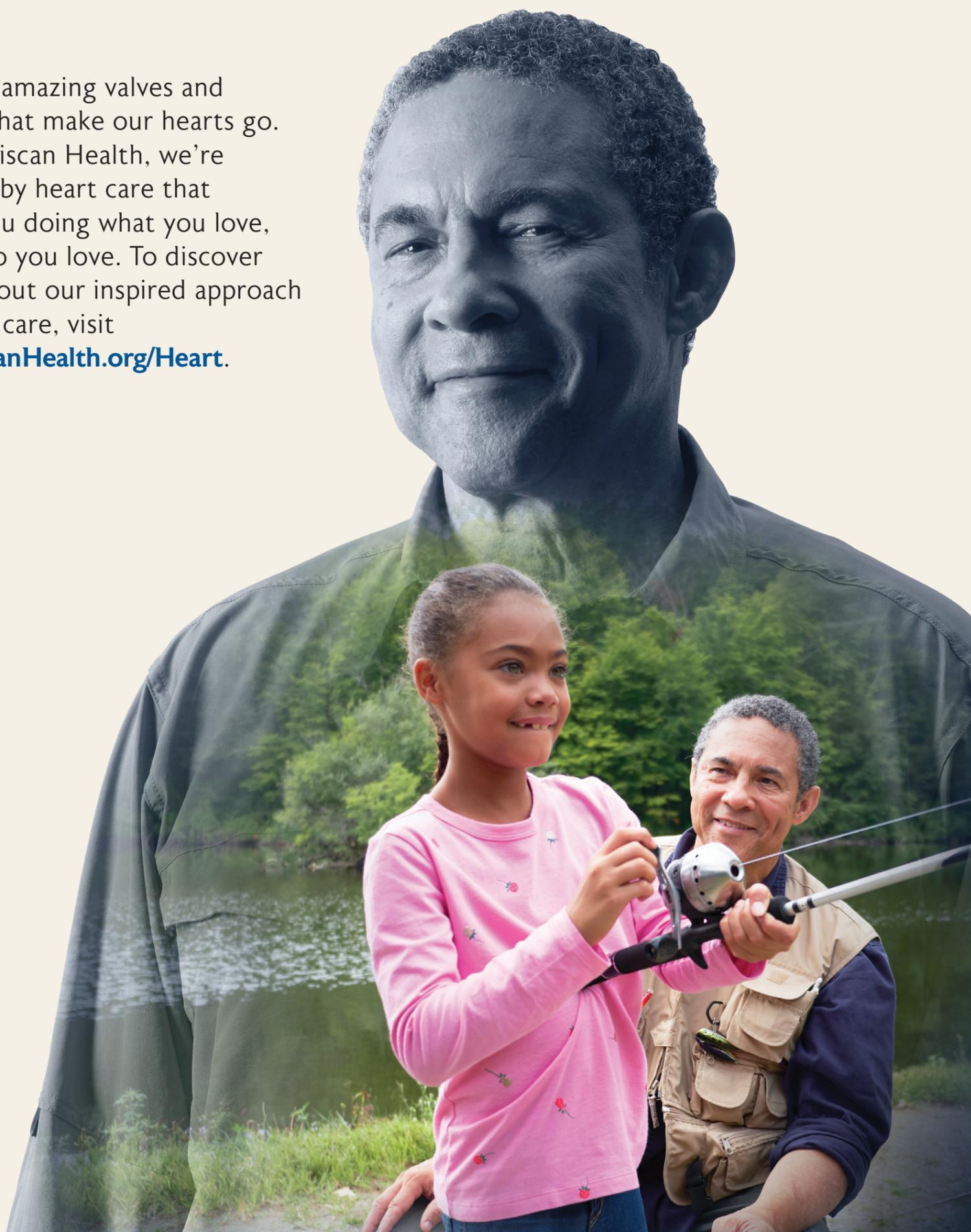
The hardest thing we have to deal with and see is the fear on some of our resident's faces because of medical issue they're dealing with. Our officers are the first responders to every medical call that happens within our community, which means we are the first showing up to a heart attack, diabetic issues, overdoses, falls, children injured, to the untimely death of a

family member. I ask that you think about all of that; then think about what these types of calls can do to an individual mentally. Yes, we are just 'Security' but we are still men and women doing a job whose goal is to help when and where we can.

- Responded to Ems / Fire calls – 396
- Assisting Residents (Lockouts, Well-Being, Etc.) – 187
- Traffic Enforcement (Includes Berm Parking) – 963
- Covenants Inspections – 992
- Assist to Outside Agency – 98

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Franciscan HEALTH

19th Hole Annual Report

By Wanda McAlvey,
Restaurant Manager

I want to say thank you for a great first year here in this community. It's been challenging and rewarding. Many of the short- and long-term goals set last year have been achieved. This speaks volumes to the great support system in place for the community. It also makes me very proud of the staff who has helped us achieve great things.

Some of the goals we achieved were:

- Getting a new menu to help

with execution and provide variety.

- Running a vendor cart every weekend to increase sales and support our golf community needs.
- Getting an additional POS in the server station and a portable POS for the pavilion to improve efficiency and expedition.
- Additional landscaping in the front to make our building look more inviting.

This past year has shown growth to our business. Each month there has been an increase in gross sales and no

major increase in expenses over last year. This is the goal of any business. I hope to keep up the momentum through the winter months.

With golf season coming to an end, I am focusing on keeping the business consistent in hours of operation and food quality.

Some of the short-term goals for winter are:

- Keeping the same lunch and dinner hours. Last winter, we started staying open for lunch Tuesday to Friday. I want to keep this going all year round. There was some growth in sales. It was not significant. But, with consistency, I am hopeful this will change. It is also nice for the community to have somewhere within the gates to have lunch even in the

winter.

- We will have live entertainment at least twice a month on Saturdays.

Some of our current specials have become staple items. This has helped develop consistent business on certain days of the week. I want to continue those staple items and introduce more evening specials during the week. Many patrons have expressed an interest in some of the homemade items that were introduced at outings this year. We plan on incorporating these items into our daily specials.

Some long-term goals for next year:

- I am looking to increase storage space upstairs for greater efficiency in the kitchen and bar. Moving

some of our stored items upstairs will free up some space so we can eventually use the downstairs as a profit-generating area.

I also need to find an effective way to expand our kitchen. If the growth in sales continues, I will not be able to be efficient with such a small area and limited equipment.

After the kitchen expansion, I would also like to start offering food delivery within the community.

I hope to add a profit-generating venue or business to the downstairs space.

The vendor cart generated almost \$6,000 in extra gross revenue this summer. Given this success, I would like to purchase a cart dedicated just for this purpose.

This season we used the golf maintenance cart with coolers to make it happen. Special thanks to Doug for his accommodations. I

would like to purchase a real vendor cart that is equipped with a heating and cooling unit.

Regarding financials: As I mentioned earlier, we have increased gross sales and decreased spending. As of the end of August, we are almost \$15,000 in the black for the year with six months to go in the fiscal year. My goal is to make the bottom-line budget or better. Some of the things I plan to do to hit this goal are:

- Continue to monitor food cost by doing consistent orders, ordering in volume to keep costs low and profits higher, following and teaching standards to avoid mistakes, remakes, and comps.
- Continue to make effective schedules and monitor clock out times.
- Continued training for the staff. I am working with my current staff to learn innovative cooking, quicker execution, and waste management.

November Entertainment

19th Hole

November 2 - Halloween Party with Night Shift 9 pm-12

November 16 - James Saqui 8 pm-11pm

November 27 - Black Wednesday Party with Kenny G 9 pm-12

NOVEMBER COUPONS

20% OFF

ENTIRE food purchase

FREE appetizer with purchase of 2 menu items

(kids meals & desserts excluded)

FREE Fountain Beverage With Any Menu Item

\$3 Off Any Large Pizza

CHEF'S SPECIALS...

Monday- 50 cent wings (dine-in only), \$6 domestic pitchers

Tuesday- \$2 Beef or Pork Tacos, \$3 Imports

Wednesday- \$10 Pasta Night, \$4 House Wines

Thursday- \$10 One-Topping Pizza, \$3 Tall Domestic Drafts

Friday- \$12 AYCE Shrimp or Fish, \$2 Domestic Bottles

Saturday- \$8 Brisket Sandwich, \$6 Tall Calls

Sunday- \$12 Lake Perch Dinner, \$13 Buckets

HOURS: Mon 3pm-9pm, Tues-Thurs: 11am-9pm, Friday-Saturday: 11am-10pm,

Seasons Lakehouse Annual Report

By Ramiro Jimenez,
Restaurant Manager

Maintain the consistency among the staff members, professionalism throughout the restaurant and motivation to reflect the ambiance and experience to be more profitable.

Plan of Action:

- Existing employees would be well knowledgeable of their job duties.
- Consistency of cleanliness and organization in each department.
- Utilized necessity tools and be productive in the workforce.
- Create an ambiance of class and style that will want customers to come back; and recognize an experience of great customer service.

Update banquet event menu.

Give residents the WOW effect when coming onto the property.

To maintain Food cost.

Labor cost kept accordingly to business levels.

Extended Plan of Action:

- Banquets

Low budget advertising and designate one person - post updated photos to website and Facebook.

Extend Customer Service

• Educate & train employees in Banquet Department.

Banquet Menu Update

Food change to create a more inviting atmosphere and to be able to accommodate provided choices & with that, prices to reflect those changes.

Additional

• New outdoor lounge area with firepit.

Enhance practices:

I will continue to establish a work environment of integrity, self-regulation, self-worth, accountability, respect, image and work alongside with my team members.

Intended Group:

Patrons will see how establishing a firm foundation and maintaining consistency over time, will improve the experience. With acceptance, repeat business from friends, family, residents, and recommendations, will be profitable.

SEASONS Lakehouse

RESTAURANT & PUB

November Specials...

Wednesday 4 pm – 9 pm
Chicken Pot Pie Topped with a Crispy Puff Pastry \$14
MG Chardonnay \$4

Thursday 4 pm – 9 pm
Pan Seared Ahi with Orange Soy Sauce Glaze \$22
House Margaritas \$5

Friday 4 pm – 10 pm
Italian Buffet \$16
Bud Light Bottles \$2 / Night Goat Bottles \$3

Saturday 4 pm – 10 pm
Grilled Swordfish with Lemon Basil Butter on a Bed of Spinach and Onions \$21
Apple Cider Mules \$5

Sunday 10 am – 1 pm
Brunch AYCE \$17, Bloody Mary's \$5, Mimosa \$4
Bottomless Mimosas from 10 am to 11 am \$10 with Purchase of Brunch

Customer Appreciation
Wednesday, November 20th
Free Apps (Chef's Choice)
Drink Special (Bartender's Choice) \$3

Thursday, November 28th
Thanksgiving Brunch AYCE
10 am – 2 pm
Adults \$28
Children 12 under \$14
Reservations Only

Call in or check us out on Facebook for our daily specials!
Text CLUB 36000 to receive special promotional deals and updates on coming events!

CALL 988-2582 HOURS: Wed-Thurs 4pm-9pm; Fri-Sat 4pm-10pm; Sun. 10am-1pm (Closed Mon. & Tues.)
Email Contact: Lakehouse@lofs.org Bar may remain open longer than posted.

TRIVIA NIGHT

FUNDRAISER

Nov. 3rd @ 4PM

AT **ST MARY'S ORTHODOX CENTER**

8600 GRAND BLVD., MERRILLVILLE

TO BENEFIT **HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF**

AND THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE ST. MARY'S 'O' CLUB

TICKETS: \$120/TEAM OF EIGHT OR \$15/PERSON AT THE DOOR
BYO FOOD/BEVERAGE * CASH BAR * 1 FREE DRINK W/ TICKET

DOORS OPEN @ 3:30PM TRIVIA STARTS @ 4

Call Adam @ 219-671-1681 for more info!

Fundraising Committee's November Comedy Night promises a hilariously good time

On November 15, the LOFS Fundraising Committee will have another hilariously good comedy night. The shows start at 9 p.m. and end about 11 p.m. Tickets always go fast so make your reservations ASAP. Payment is required to hold your reservation. Contact Wendy Van Denburgh 219-309-9530 via phone or text.

You can drop off payments at the LOFS POA office or at the home of member Iris Varlan; call or text her for address information at 219-916-0260. Tickets are \$20/person, and tables seat up to 12. All proceeds not used for paying the comedians and their accommodations are di-

rectly invested into our community of LOFS. We are all volunteers and we welcome more to our group.

Dinner reservations are strongly recommended at the Seasons Lakehouse by calling 219-988-2582.

The Fundraising Committee is joining hands with the G.A.P Food Pantry. Please help those less fortunate by bringing a donation (canned or boxed food) to the November Comedy Night. A list of suggestions can be found on our Lofs Fundraisers FB page. Contributing to this great cause will enter you into a drawing for a chance of three sets of FREE Comedy Night tickets. Thanking you in ad-

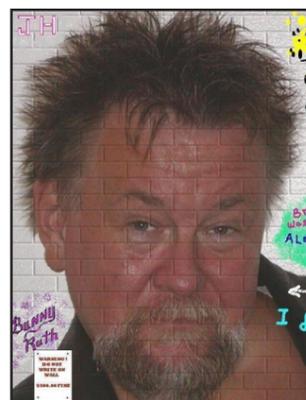
vance for your support; it is because of people like you that the G.A.P. Food Pantry is able to serve others in their time of need.

Our Feature comedian will be Tony Wendland. Get ready for the rollercoaster ride of laughter with Tony as you ride through his mind and see the world according to Tony. He oozes charm, is laid back, and has a commanding yet lovable stage presence and is uniquely clever. He has performed at many stand-up festivals and was declared Joker of the Year at Jokers Joke-Off at the Best of the Midwest Comedy Fest and has become a contributing writer for Comedy Centrals 'Mind

of Mencia'.

Harry Hickstein will be our headliner comedian. Is he a member of Hell's Angels, a mob enforcer, or a tough member of the Teamsters? It will be up to you to decide. Maybe he is just a big teddy bear? Harry has been doing comedy for 20 years and can adlib quickly and encourages audience participation. Known as 'Mr. Big Stuff', you will be holding your sides with laughter, or maybe your mother or grandmother or the person sitting next to you - but "You're completely on your own with the stranger"!

We will also have our community sweatshirts available in six colors for



Harry Hickstein



Tony Wendland

purchase at comedy night, so if you haven't purchased one yet - be sure to be ready to get yours in S-M-L-XL for \$35 and XXL-XXXL for \$38. They are also available at the POA office. Check out the Facebook page

for information too - Lofs Fundraisers (NOT LOFS Fundraisers!). Next year, on January 17, will be our next Comedy Night so mark your calendars. We can't wait to see you.

POA Board President's Annual Report

By Tim Swallers,
POA Board President

The 51st annual POA Board meeting for the Lakes of the Four Seasons was held recently and included a brief recap of the past year delivered by myself, our Community Manager, our Treasurer, each Department Director, as well as the various groups and committees that operate within our community.

We introduced and swore in our new board member Jackie Katz and incumbent board member Bard Zupan and say thank you to Jay Robison for his service on the POA Board. We will also reward some of the hard work and dedication of one of our residents, as well as some of those that are employed here and call our community their workplace.

Our 2019-20 budget allowed us to further invest in community.

- POA Rental Docks – after approximately 40 years the POA rental docks at Westhaven were replaced.
- Drainage Project Per the Drainage Engineering Plan – The second project is underway and will be completed in a few weeks weather permitting. We will continue with the plan and begin the third project in the spring.
- Continued Playground Replacement Program – The playground at Holiday Park will be replaced with a new

and improved ADA approved equipment. Work is already underway.

- Continued to maintain the parks – Repaved the walking track at Lions Park and added an asphalt walkway at the dog park so residents don't have to walk on mud after a rain or ice and snow during the winter months.
- Continued to Increase the Reserved Funds
- Continued to purchase equipment for the various departments

I would like to thank my fellow board members Brad Zupan, Herb Rogers, Jay Robison, and Lori DuPratt for giving me the honor to serve the last year as Board President. I would like to

thank the residents that come to the monthly meetings to ask questions and stay involved. We live in a wonderful community with great people, who volunteer their time and we will be hearing from some of them soon. Lastly, I would like to thank the employees who keep this community what it is and that take pride in their work.

I want to recognize two people in particular who will come off the board this year. They served on the POA Board and did so with class, dedication, and a lot of their time.

Lori DuPratt served for almost three years. She came to the board without an agenda. She participated in every discussion and brought a different perspective to the group. I am sure she will be volunteering in the future to help the community. Prior to coming to the BOD she served on the WGA and the 50th Anniversary committee. Thank you, Lori.

Jay Robison, has given us four years of time on the BOD. In today's world, where everyone has an opinion about everything and they share it on social media, with

no intent on helping do the work, Jay is the opposite; yes he has opinions, but is willing to volunteer and do the work. He has served on the MGA Board, Girls Softball, Boys Baseball, Crown Point Chamber, and his church. Jay has served as President in several of those organizations. Jay came to the POA Board with no agenda other than he wanted to help move the community forward. The community is in a better place because of his leadership. He has already asked us if he can volunteer starting next week. Thank you, Jay.

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- Updated Kitchen and Baths
- 2 Fireplaces; 3 Seasons Room
- Walkout Basement, Screened Porch Hot Tub
- Boat Dock and More!

- 10628 Grand Blvd. in Winfield
- 1.4 Acre Walkout Ranch
- 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Move In Ready
- Sun Room, Picturesque Yard
- Winfield / Crown Point Schools

- 2 Story Townhome in Ellendale Farm
- 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms
- Large Bonus Room
- 3 Car Garage • 2401 Square Feet
- 1 Unit Under Construction 2 to 3 Months to Complete

- Under Construction, Ellendale Farm
- Ranch Luxury Townhome
- 1890 SF Main Level
- Kitchen Appliances, Walk Out Basement

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Gardens Around the Lakes of the Four Seasons Community

The first official hard frost arrived on Friday, October 18. When you scrape your windshield, you know a hard frost has arrived.

We have started to cut down garden beds. Last year winter came in too quickly and there were beds that didn't get cut down. We had to cut down these beds in the spring. We lost six weeks this year due to the weather changing so quickly last year. November temperatures were like December. We are keeping track of each individual bed that we cut down this year. We are looking forward to sharing that number with you.

We continue to monitor hole #5 by the road and the side gate (we will finish planting the side gate in Spring 2020) for water needs. Plants require 1" of water per week. A few benefits of planting a new flower bed in the fall are mother nature usually takes care of the watering, cooler temperature means less stress on the plants, we spend less time taking care of these beds because their needs are being met. We also avoid having to take care of them through the hot, unpredictable days of

summer. The only plant we don't plant after Labor Day is ornamental grass. They just don't do well.

We have kept track of some items we have found in the garden beds this year. One tiny Star Wars storm trooper helmet, one whiffle ball, three sandwiches in sandwich bags, 400 cigarette butts, five lemon slices, eight lime slices, 37 cigars, 42 beer bottles, 12 pop cans, one pink sweatshirt, and countless golf balls.

Thank you to the Maintenance Department, whether its loading our trailer with mulch, transporting large rocks, pulling out slabs of concrete, replacing missing screws from our trailer, transporting plants from their winter homes to summer homes, they are always there to lend a helping hand. Thank you for making our job a little easier.

Thank you to Golf Maintenance for all their continued support. From helping us empty heavy loads, moving large rocks back to the shop, weed eating along the garden beds (we know nobody loves to do this,) removing shrubs to make room for a new garden

bed, planting trees, and just being a great group of guys to share a shop with.

Planting tulips in between cutting down flower beds is next on our Fall list. Last year we planted 1,300 tulip bulbs. Thanks to the House & Garden Club for their generous monetary donation to help bring Holland, Michigan to the Lake of the Four Seasons. We will be planting 1,800 tulip bulbs in clumps of three or five. I mention this because I don't want anyone thinking we dig 1,800 individual holes. That would be unbearable. We are so happy they loved the idea and happily hopped on board!

The Greenhouse is packed. The plants that are wintered over would easily cost \$10,000 to replace if they were purchased at their current size. Kim maintains these during the cold, dark days of winter. I bet it's a beautiful place to be on dreary days.

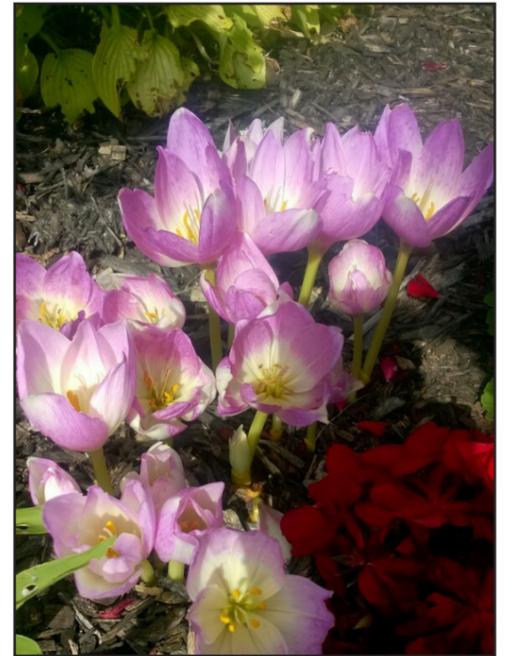
By the time you are reading this, Thanksgiving will be only a few short weeks away. May happiness, laughter, and love help make your Holidays that much sweeter!



117th Street Entrance – Exit



Autumn Crocus with Pineapple Lily



Autumn Crocus



Number 5 Hole "Before" picture



Number 5 Hole "After" picture



Number 5 Hole "After" picture



Greenhouse



Maintenance enhanced with grasses, daylilies, rudbeckia, and coneflowers



Number 5 Hole "After" picture



Tulip bulbs to be planted

WGA Annual Report

By Liz Sturgeon,
WGA President

The Women's Golf Association was established here in the Lakes of the Four Seasons in 1969. The organization has continued to foster an interest in golf among the women in our community through fellowship and friendly competition since its inception.

Our organization has gained a few members for the 2019 season with fifty-three paid members. The Thursday morning league consisted of

twenty-six total members; twenty-six 18-holers and ten 9-holers. The remaining WGA members only participating in the WGA sponsored weekend events.

The WGA again hosted various events during the past golfing season for all of its members: The Kickoff Breakfast, 2 Best Ball of 4, Memorial Cup, League Championships and Steeplechase. The Lake-versus-Porter Shootout was again this year replaced with the Clash of the Titans that

partnered ten WGA members with their MGA (Men's) counterparts in a match play format and is the only event on the calendar that the two associations play together.

The WGA had an exceptional Guest Day Invitational in June with 106 participating in the day's activities and Field Day ended our calendar year outings with many of our former members in attendance. Participants dressed their best for dinner at our Lakehouse – as we celebrated our 50th anniversary!

The 2019 golf season ended on Saturday, October 5, with our awards pizza luncheon and the election on our 2020 executive board. The elected officers are:

- President: Sherrie Matthews
- 1st Vice President: Tonia Skees
- 2nd Vice President (18): Phyllis Wayco
- 2nd Vice President (9): Linda Pasternak
- Secretary: Peggy Greenya
- Treasurer: Kim Brownlee
- Rules Director: Mitzi Lavender
- Constitution Director: Barb Smith
- Handicap Director: Sandi Nicol

Involvement in the community events is an important goal of the WGA and is achieved by lending our support to the various activities within our boundaries. In the past year WGA members have hosted several fundrais-

ing events during the season. The 50/50 Raffle that was drawn after the 4th of July parade by the Lakehouse generated a total of \$944.91 and the summer concert parking concession on June 20th netted the WGA \$359!

The WGA was able to donate a total of four ball washers for the golf course, \$100 for a hole sponsorship for the First Annual 'NWI No Child Hungry' golf outing, and a \$50 donation to 2 Bills Salute to our Heroes event. For an organization with such a small membership, the WGA certainly has accomplished a lot throughout the year.

Thank you to the Event Chairman and their committees for an exciting sea-

son. The WGA officers and members wish to express our thanks to Paul Boris, Director of Golf, Tyler Nicol, Golf Assistant, Doug Weiss, Golf Maintenance Superintendent, Wanda McAlvey Manager of the 19th Hole, Ramiro Jimenez, Manager of the Lakehouse for their efforts this past year during our events and league play. Additional thanks to Rick Cleveland, POA Manager and his staff for their assistance with the concert parking concession. Without the ongoing support the WGA receives on a regular basis from all the LOFS departments during the events and projects, we would not be able to reach the goals of contributing to the community.

WGA

By Marge Wilke

WGA September Results and Year-End Awards

On October 6 the officers and members of the WGA gathered to announce the September winners and recipients of the Year-End Awards for both the 18- and 9-hole leagues.

For September 5, the 18-hole league winners of the Half-Truths game were: 1st place – Jeana Karas with 29, 2nd Ann Ross with 29, and 3rd Phyllis Wayco with 30 and Linda Peterson had a chip-in on Hole #11.

On September 12 the game was Odd Holes with Jodi Hall winning 1st with 29, 2nd place Jeana Karas with 33, and 3rd Sandi Nicol with 34. Carmen Dulhanty had a chip-in on Hole #8, Mitzi Levander on Hole #6, and Sherrie Matthews on Hole #15, while Jeana Karas had a birdie on Hole #10.

For September 19 the game was Criss-Cross with 1st place being won by Phyllis Wayco with a 28, 2nd place Mitzi Levander with 29, and 3rd Diane Greaney with 30. Chip-ins were re-

corded by June Wilkinson on Holes #3 and #17 while Jodi Hall had a chip-in on Hole #6, plus Sherrie Mathews had a birdie on Hole #10.

The September 26 game was Even Holes and 1st place was won by Sherrie Mathews with 35, 2nd Phyllis Wayco 35, and 3rd Ann Ross 38. Chip-ins were recorded by Mitzi Levander on Hole #3 and also Ann Ross on Hole #3. Putter of the Month for the 18 Hole League was Mitzi Levander.

The 9-Hole League's game on September 5 was No Putt Tourney with the A Flight won by Angie Bisbikis and B Flight Maureen Zalewski. Angie Bisbikis had a par on Hole #11.

The game on September 12

was the Best Poker Hand with the A Flight being won by Lori Joyce while the B Flight was won by Linda Pasternak.

On September 19 the game was Tee to Green with the A Flight won by Angie Bisbikis and B Flight Linda Pasternak.

For September 26 the game was Prophecy with the A Flight being won by Lori Joyce and B Flight by Linda Pasternak. The 9-Hole Putter of the Month was Angie Bisbikis.

Year-End Awards were announced including 9-Hole League Ringers: 1st place to Nancy Barcik, 2nd Maureen Zalewski, and 3rd to Linda Pasternak.

The 18-Hole League Ringer winners were: 1st place Eva Simic, 2nd

Nadean Hartman, 3rd Sandi Nicol, and 4th place to Carol Larson, Mitzi Levander and Ann Ross. Match Play winners were: 9-Hole League Individual – Barb Wood; while the 18-Hole Partners category was won by Nikki Streit and June Wilkinson.

The 18-Hole League Championship winners included the following: Championship Flight – Kim Brownlee; A Flight – Joni Bucci; B Flight- Carmen Dulhanty and C Flight Mitzi Levander.

The 9 Hole League Championship winners were A Flight Angie Bisbikis and B Flight Maureen Zalewski. Steeplechase winner was Kim Brownlee. Chipper of the Year 18 Hole: Mitzi

Levander, Jodi Hall, Sherrie Matthews, Ann Ross, Sandi Nicol, June Wilkinson, and Eva Simic. The 9 Hole Chipper of the Year was a tie with Linda Pasternak and Bev Nowicki.

Putter of the Year for the 18 Hole League was Sandi Nicol and 9 Hole Putter of the Year was Linda Pasternak. Most Improved Golfers for the 18 Hole League were Tonia Skees and Nikki Streit, while the 9 Hole Most Improved Golfer was Linda Pasternak.

The 2019 Grace Foley Award Winner was Jodi Hall.

Congratulations to all the winners and awardees. We are all looking forward to next year's golf season and WGA activities.

House & Garden Club Annual Report



By Nancy Beck,
Club President

Hi Everyone! Nancy Beck, President of the Four Seasons House and Garden Club here.

As most of you know by now, our most exciting news to talk about this year was that the Four Seasons House and Garden Club is celebrating our 50th "birthday" this year! That is quite an accomplishment for any club, wouldn't you say?

Our history and our future were showcased at the Club's 50th anniversary luncheon in May. Tributes to the "Weeders and Feeders" of the past quickly led to our hopes and aspirations for today's leaders and their plans to continue to improve our community-of course we did it in style with a wonderful Seasons Lakehouse lunch, beautiful decorations, and surrounded by good friends both old and new. Let's not forget the *awesome* gift to our community installed in our Memorial Garden facing Walt's Pond-the bench that was carved with our logo on it to remind all that come up to fish and relax, that we continue to give back to LOFS.

We currently have 62

Ladies listed on our roster and are always looking for new members. We still use our new logo which has 'branded' us in the area, our new membership yearbook, member business cards, stickers for marketing purposes, a new banner for trade shows and the Summer Concerts, as well as a new 'Yard-of-the-Month' sign. We continue to make our presence and community works known on our lofs.org webpage, a new Facebook page, stories and photos on the LOFS Insider, and articles in the Seasonal-most all written by our *fabulous* Marketing-Publicity Chair Girl Mary Cavallini!

Speaking of 'Yard-of-the-Month', I am excited to say that bringing that program back this year has created quite a stir again. Those that were chosen felt almost like celebrities because of the tremendous response and excitement from all of our great neighbors in the Seasons. Thank you to Committee Members Mary Cavallini, Linda Koblack, and Pat Jelonek for their volunteer time to scour and tour the neighborhood, vote, interview the owners and then

ceremonially, present the famous 'Yard of the Month' sign for 'planting in' the winners' yard. The winners' names were put up on the marquees at the front, side, and back entrances so that is how the winners got to be so popular! Stay tuned to next year when we will run the contest again.

As usual, we have had a lot of fun in the Garden Club this year. We started out the year with our Chinese New Year Celebration, had a Mardi Gras, loved Spring Time in Paris, and celebrated Cinco de Mayo. Again this year we had a Golf Course Tour with Lunch at the 19th Hole Bar & Grille and were so impressed with our residents' great backyards and the work of our POA Gardeners Kim and Timburley and Golf Course Maintenance crew. We had our usual fun summertime July Bash followed by our second annual Hawaiian Luau where we played our version of 'Let's Make a Deal', and recently had a fabulous 'Palooza Extravaganza' at our Oktoberfest meeting. Members again donated gently used or new purses, accessories, etc.-it was a sure hit with our own JoEllen Simoni auctioning off our wares. Great fun was had by all and a profit of almost \$1,200.00 was made.

As for the beautification of our community, along with

the carved bench, we donated ten large mums to 'beautify' the Little League Fields this year, since we had just finished up our Mum Sale of which we made over \$900. Again, these were some of the *largest* and most *beautiful* Mums I have ever seen! We are happy to say thanks to those who supported our Club and bought some.

This year we hosted the August 22 summer concert by welcoming LOFS guests and had a very profitable evening by receiving donations from our residents and their guests, so we thank you for that too.

For November, our Ways & Means Committee Members are now selling those delicious Marilyn's Pies so please feel free to order a few for your holidays. We will be hosting our second annual 'Cocktails & Canvas' on Thursday, November 7. Also, our Club Members will once again decorate the Seasons Lakehouse for the holidays, so we hope all of you can stop in and patronize our Seasons Lakehouse Restaurant with its delicious offerings and wonderful atmosphere.

By the way, two of our members, Kim White and Timburley Ecklund, proposed to our Club board and members, that we launch an 'LOFS Tulip Time' project for our neighborhood this fall.

We are asking any and all

residents to plant tulips now for the spring so that we can turn LOFS into the next 'Holland, Michigan!' Stay tuned to our Facebook Page and The Seasonal to see our progress through pictures and postings and please enjoy the efforts of all who participate.

We will be nominating new officers at our next meeting, so my two-year term as President will be coming to an end in December. I have lived in Four Seasons for 36 years and have loved it ever since I moved in here. My two children went to school at Porter Lakes and then Boone Grove. I was always so appreciative of how *awesome* this neighborhood was, how fun it was, how great that all the sports were available within the gates, how friendly and helpful residents have always been, and how *safe* this community is.

We have loved using the restaurants, the lakes, the golf course, the pool, the playgrounds and parks, and the soccer and baseball fields! To this day, each of my children has at least 4-5 good friends that they started kindergarten with-that is truly a beautiful, unique, and remarkable thing in this day and age! I have felt blessed to be able to live here and I thank and have felt honored to serve my fellow Officers, the Garden Club Members, and the residents of Lakes of the Four Seasons. I thank you all for this very exciting and enriching ex-

perience!

In closing, the sole purpose of our Club is to offer a socializing opportunity to our members and to continue to give back by 'further beautifying our community'. Over these last 50 years, LOFS has grown to having more than 110 beds and gardens which are now attended to by two employees – Kim White and Timburley Ecklund. We hope that all residents and their guests will continue to appreciate the more than \$150,000 that we have donated over the years. I would like to take a minute in this report to personally thank each and every one of our LOFS residents; the POA Board; Community Manager Rick Cleveland; Seasons Lakehouse Manager Ramiro Jimenez and his staff; Wanda McAlvey, manager of the 19th Hole Bar & Grille and her staff; the POA office staff, Doug and the Golf Course Maintenance staff and Roy and the Maintenance staff; the Lions Club leaders and members; the Public Safety Department and for any other Club and/or organization for your continued support so we can continue to do what we love best-give back and beautify our community all the while we are making friends and forming lasting relationships with each other!

Bye for now, thank you all, and Happy Holidays!

Lakes of the Four Seasons woman is a descendant of early local farmers

By Walt Pluchinsky,
LOFS
Historical
Society



It's not too often that this writer is given a suggestion for a story of local historical significance. But when that happened, the wheels of progress began to turn.

After reading various recent historical articles in The Seasonal, local resident Caroline Weaver, a spry, astute widowed octogenarian living on Sunnyslope Drive, thought that she had some artifacts and information on local history that should be shared with others. As a result, she contacted this writer, who arranged for an interview with her. Some of her early memories about the area, as well as the showing of several artifacts, are certainly worthy to be described and passed on.

Caroline certainly does not fit the profile of where current LOFS residents came from. Most of us have come from elsewhere, perhaps

migrating from Illinois, or areas of Indiana north of us. Caroline, however, was born and raised in nearby Porter Township, living on a farm on CR 600W, just several miles east of her present home. Later, her family moved a little north to the small railroad town of Beatrice, near Lake Eliza, where her father Charles Becker worked for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, based at the station. Nearby, on CR 725W, just south of CR 100S, her grandparents, Herman and Caroline (Carrie) Becker, had a farm. In her interview, Caroline Weaver reminisced and eagerly displayed a number of artifacts about her grandparents and their farm, to which we focus our attention.

Herman and Carrie (Kuehl) Becker can be considered typical early resident farmers of Porter Township and nearby Winfield Township, Lake County, many of German descent.

The area consisted mostly of farms, with the occasional village. Herman was born in 1875, Carrie in 1879, and

they were married at the German Methodist Church in Crown Point in 1899. Each of their parents came from Germany.

According to the census records, they lived in Ross Township, Lake County, as farmers in 1900. The 1910 census shows them in Porter Township, and having three children, William, Charles, and Anna. According to Caroline Weaver, her grandfather bought the farm of 79.9 acres, with the other part of the section being the Frame family cemetery.

Also, Herman never had a car, relying on horses for travel. Caroline's father Charles went up to the eighth grade at the Kenworthy schoolhouse on the corner of CR 100S and CR 725W. Since the family had only draft horses, he had no means of travel to high school. Herman died in 1938 at age 62 from an accident while helping a farm neighbor. Carrie died in 1978 at age 99. Both are buried in the Salem Methodist Church cemetery.

Caroline's collection of artifacts included some old

photographs, post cards, and sympathy cards and sign-in registry books from the funerals of both grandparents. Included in these books were names of the pallbearers, relatives, and friends, with many names of local people, such as Skinkle, Busselberg, Sapper, Williams, Peck, Bacon, and Hooseline. Some of the sympathy cards came from far away as Iowa and Florida, addressed to their residence at Route 1, Hebron Indiana, carrying 1-1/2 cent stamps. Faded photographs showed a family gathering at the farm, with horses and a barn in the background, as well as the old school. Another photograph (attached) shows the Beckers on their wedding day in 1899.

Caroline and this writer took a drive of the area. The old house and barn on the Becker homestead are long gone, replaced now by a rather large and visible house built on the premises, and the Williams farm, where she grew up, is now a subdivision. The schoolhouse on CR 100S is no more, as is



the railroad, the station, and the house where she lived in Beatrice, which is unrecognizable as a town.

Caroline is willing to do-

nate certain articles to the local historical society, but nothing has been decided at this point. Thank you, Caroline!

Operations and Building Maintenance Department Annual Report

By Roy Green,
Director of Operations

The Operations Department started off October, November, and most of December with leaf collection. It takes a lot of time and effort to collect all the leaves that are put out in the fall. We had three crews on the road most of the time and collected approximately 1,000 tons of leaves.

In November the guys that were not collecting leaves helped Bruce and Jill Nix get the Christmas light display ready to launch the day after Thanksgiving. Which it was. If you have not seen it, you are missing a wonderful display of music and lights. It takes about a week for us to put up the lights and then Bruce and Jill work about another two weeks connecting it all up. Thank you, Bruce and Jill, for all the work you put into making the holidays more enjoyable in the Seasons.

The maintenance crew also decorates the outside of the 19th Hole, the front entrance, the 117th street entrance, and the Porter County entrance.

With all of that going on we also have to install over 300 'snow stakes' to mark the edge of the roads for snow plowing. We then get all of our trucks ready for winter by changing the oil, getting them greased up, and

putting the plows and salters on them.

After that we let Mother Nature kind of dictate how our schedule will run in December, depending on how much snow she is going to drop on us. Last year she decided to drop more ice than snow in December. We were out salting the 26 miles of streets as best as we could and I think we did a fine job.

January brought in more snow and some long days of plowing and working in the -23-degree temperatures. If it wasn't snowing or icing we were working on the trucks, plows, and salters.

In February we had more snow and ice and we set up for the Lions Club 'Polar Plunge'. March brought a little bit of better weather. We were able to get the old shuffleboard table out of the 19th Hole and replace it with a new one. We were finally able to get the Christmas light globes down from in front of the Lakehouse and pull the snow stakes, which is a good sign that Spring was here.

In April we started getting the community ready for Summer by putting out picnic tables, garbage cans and port-a-johns. We prepared the baseball and soccer fields for their upcoming seasons. We started our spring leaf collection, got the lawnmowers ready. To finish the month

off we installed two new speed bumps.

In May the rains and warm weather came. With Doug's wonderful job of fertilizing, the grass grew and grew, it took everything we had to keep up with it. But we did. We spent many hours mowing our 200+ acres of grass and trimming. We also had to get the pool ready to be opened on Memorial Day weekend. We started our branch collections that we had to do in between the raindrops. We helped the Lakes Department with the removal of the Westhaven boat docks.

June is always a very busy month for us. Mowing grass, trimming, garbage pick-up at the parks and beaches, making sure the bathhouses are cleaned and stocked with paper, cutting down trees, and assisting any of the clubs or departments that need our help.

Then we get to set up for the Thursday night concerts. People might not think that there is much to do but we put out garbage cans, put up the tents, set up the Fundraisers food cart, put up banners and the backdrop and set up barricades. Then on Friday morning at 6:30 a.m. we get to take it all down and have the Lakehouse ready for business by 8 a.m.

July is the busiest month of the summer. Starting out on July 3 we have to set up for the July 4 celebration by putting up the tents for the Lions Club and Lakehouse, installing snow fences for crowd control, and setting up the beer garden with the tents, snow fence, and picnic tables. We have to rope off the area for the pyrotechnics

for the fireworks show. On the July 4 we had a crew of four employees doing garbage detail and helping the Lions Club and Lakehouse staff. They also emptied trash cans and made sure the restrooms were clean and had paper supplies at Sandy Beach and Big Bass Beach. By July 5 we took everything down and put it away.

The rest of July was busy with the usual things; mowing, weedeating, trash pick-up, chipping, cleaning ditch-

es, picking up dead animals, repairing lawn mowers and trucks, along with doing the set up and clean up for the Thursday night concerts.

In August we keep on doing our usual things that I mentioned in July but now we added doing some road striping along with it.

September was a repeat of July and August except we did branch collection for the entire community. We also started working on the new playground at Holiday Park,

which will be completed sometime in October.

I would like to thank my crew that worked in all kinds of conditions to keep LOFS looking good. I would also like to thank the POA Board and the Community Manager for giving me all their help.

I would like to welcome our new board member Jackie Katz and look forward to working with her and the remaining Board members.

The Historical Society of LOFS Invites You to Join Us Thursday, November 14th at Seasons Lakehouse Ballroom at 7:00 p.m. and enjoy an evening with long-time resident **CAROLINE WEAVER**

Caroline Becker Weaver, born less than two miles from Lakes of The Four Seasons in 1931, shares memories, photos, artifacts and experiences of growing up without television, telephones, and living on a farm. Caroline will also share displays of her various collections, photographs of nearby areas, and several interesting items; such as her Indian arrowhead display and old Census Reports. Caroline and her husband, Ron, bought their LOFS property in 1977 and moved into their Sunnyslope home early 1978. Please join us to hear her stories with a time for questions you may have. Historical Society member, Walter Pluchinsky, will also join Caroline with added items of interest. Bring the kiddos, friends and family. Light refreshments will be provided.

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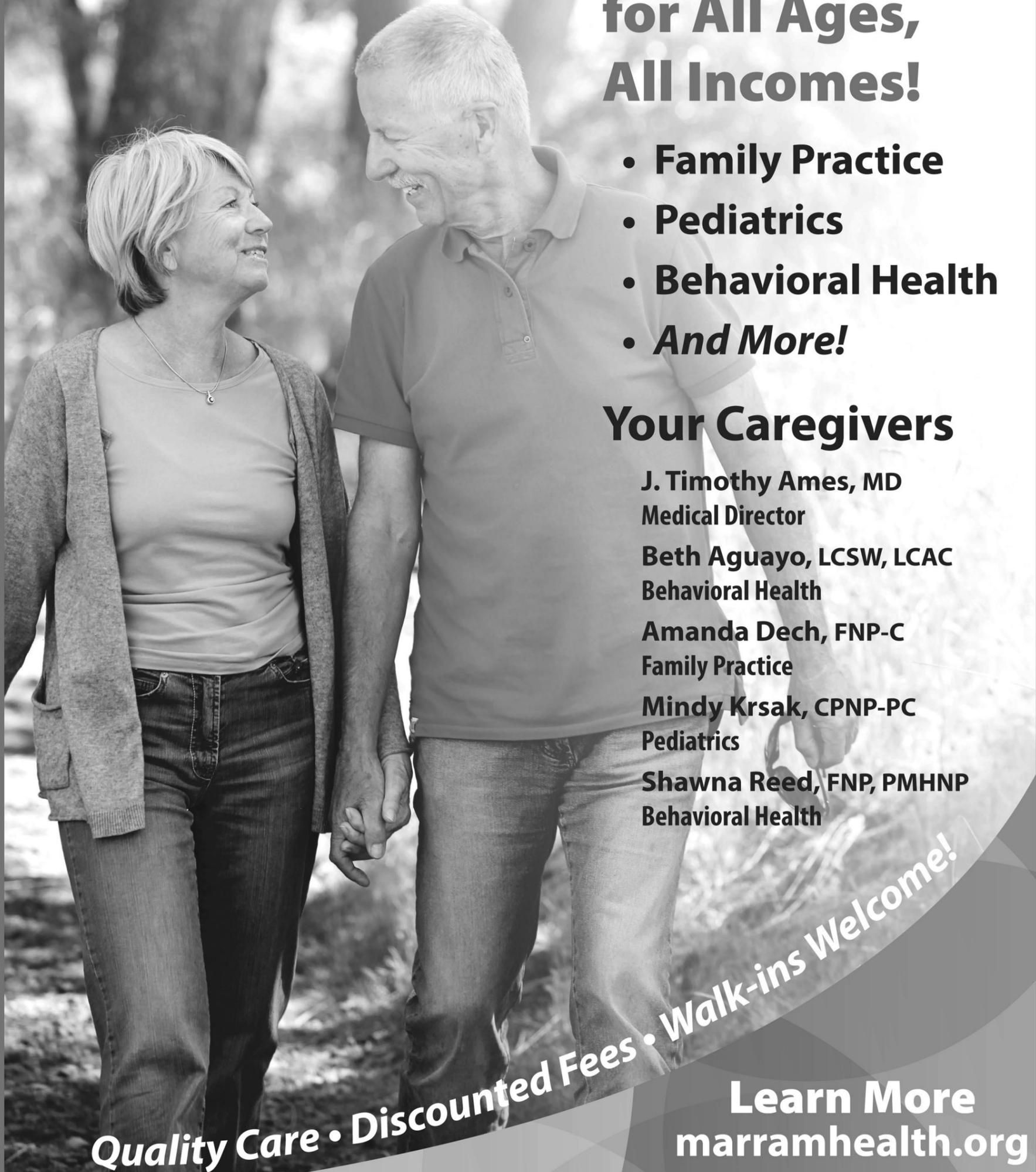
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Keenagers

The Keen-Agers will be having their November Thanksgiving meeting on the 21st at the Seasons Lakehouse. The bar will open at noon with a delicious turkey lunch being served at 1 p.m. Entertainment will be the talented singer, Jerry Ward. After a short meeting, adjournment will be around 3 p.m.

The Club is open to anyone 50 and older regardless

of residency. The yearly membership fee is \$25 and the monthly luncheon cost is \$15 which includes a tip and entertainment. With the success of their many fundraisers they have had help in financing all their trips and activities.

Besides the third Thursday of the month meetings, except for January, they take a boat ride on the Spirit of Chicago, they gamble

at the Four Winds casino in Michigan and every September they vacation going on a Diamond Tour bus trip, next year it will be Niagara Falls. Shipshewana shopping and a chicken dinner is planned for May.

Please call Renate at 219-689-3408 or email her at willrenate@yahoo.com to make a reservation to attend a meeting or to join the club. Read The Seasonal for the club's info and updates, check out their new updated website at www.lofs.org, look at their ad in the LOFS 2019-20 phonebook and friend them on their

Facebook page which has many photos showing how they make fun affordable.

Thanks to all the Keen-Agers and the Lakehouse staff under Rick Cleveland & Ramiro Jimenez for 'Keeping Up With The Keen-Agers'.

- President, Renate Sahulcik
- Vice-President, Travel & Entertainment Director, Jeanette Stolarz
- Treasurer & Food Director, Pete Maloy
- Secretary, Vileda Maloy
- Caller Director, Bernadette Bailey
- Casino Director, Sue Kalinowski

Keenagers Annual Report

By Renate Sahulcik, Club President

The Keen-agers are a social club for the 50 and older crowd. In addition to their monthly meetings at the Seasons Lakehouse (except for January), they enjoy day trips such as a boat ride on the Spirit of Chicago, gambling, and shopping at the Four Winds Casino in Michigan, plus their every September Diamond Tour bus vacation; this year it was Branson, Missouri. New trips and activities are planned throughout the year.

They are a non-profit club, but the members donate to the Winfield Pantry every holiday season. They have 14 successful fundraisers to their credit, a sexy calendar, delicious cookbook, and 'Hanging with a Hunk' with our very own Rick Cleveland, bringing in the big bucks. This year they participated in the concert parking which brought in \$1,387. The annual August Auction gets better every year with new merchandise for sale, \$1,200 was added to their fund, which helps finance

their trips and activities.

A year's membership dues are still \$25 and the monthly luncheon cost is still \$15, which includes a tip and great entertainment. The Seasonal reports their latest info and updates. Their ad is in the LOFS 2019-20 phone directory. The new, improved website at www.lofs.org has updated news from the club. Friend them on their Facebook page, which includes photos.

The Board consists of President, Renate Sahulcik; Vice-President plus Travel and Entertainment Director Jeanette Stolarz; Treasurer and Food Director Pete Maloy; and Secretary Vileda Maloy. Bernadette Bailey is the Caller Director and Sue

Kalinowski is the Casino Director. All the Keen-Agers contribute to the club's popularity and success!

The Keen-Ager Club is forty plus years young and over eighty active members strong and growing. Interested people are asked to please call Renate at 219-689-3408 or email her at willrenate@yahoo.com to get more club detail or to make a future reservation to attend or join.

Thanks to Community Manager Rick Cleveland for the use of the Lakehouse and all the Lakehouse staff, under the management of Ramiro Jimenez for 'Keeping up with the Keen-Agers'.

Lions Club Annual Report

By Jackie Katz, Lions Treasurer

The Lions had a productive and fulfilling year as we start our second century of service as an organization. We continue to follow our organization's motto: 'We Serve'.

The Lions performed a number of community projects, including donating over \$5,000 to local food banks, holding a free annual Christmas Party and Easter Egg Hunt for the children in our community, donating Christmas gifts to needy families, and running the annual Fourth of July Parade. This year we added a new item in the July 4th food booth - pulled pork sandwiches, which were well received by our guests.

An inaugural year project that reflects our goals to support sight and low-vision was Dining in the Dark. Spearheaded by Lion Don Tul and his wife Lisa, the evening included trying to make a peanut butter sandwich and pouring a glass of water while blindfolded. Finally, a lot of brave souls ate their entre with blindfolds on (try and spear a tomato while blindfolded!). The proceeds have helped Lions purchase items designed for blind and low-vision students, including computers, tablets, personal canes, and even a bike that attaches to another bike so a blind person can ride. The impact is dramatic, as these children get to do what other kids can do.

Supporting our community and the state of Indiana, the Lions also donate to sight and hearing projects, cancer research, and provide glasses or hearing aids to those who request them. The Lions donate dictionaries, ear buds, clothing and other items that our local grade schools need or request every fall.

The Princess Brunch returned to the Lakehouse this year, featuring Disney princesses entertaining and dancing with our guests. New this year was the Princess Brunch Band, a two-piece group that sang Disney songs and current hits. The event had great food from our Lakehouse, a candy buffet and was capped off by crowning a new 'Queen of the Lake' in LOFS. The brunch will return next year in May.

To do all of these events and projects requires fundraising. The Lions held their annual pork chop dinner, golf outing, and White Cane Day. Our steak fundraiser, held twice a year, sells cases and half cases of steaks for those summer outings or holiday gifts. These steaks are the main dish in our annual steak fry, which is held every August.

This past winter we had our annual Polar Plunge, featuring a large number of brave souls who jumped into icy water outside of the pool house. This year we added a mascot, Splash the Duck, who posed with our guests and plungers for pictures. The event was supported by the board and a number of other local groups and businesses who encouraged their employees to plunge. The event allows us to donate funds to our Fire Department, which supports our event by providing safety gear for those jumping in the icy lake.

Whew! The Lions had a busy year. We are always looking for new members to join our group; we work hard but have fun as well. Thank you to our LOFS community who generously support our events and donate to Lions causes. See you at our next outing!

DeMotte native, chaplain in the U.S. Navy supports the nation's nuclear deterrence mission

Lt. Nathan Boon is a Navy chaplain serving with Strategic Communications Wing One, a versatile command capable of consisting of three Navy squadrons and a Wing staff that employs over 1,700 active-duty sailors and 100 contractors to provide maintenance, security, operations, administration, training, and logistic support for the E-6B Mercury aircraft fleet.

Boon is a 2005 graduate of Baptist Bible College and is responsible for providing a spectrum of support service to individual sailors and their families.

Boon credits success in the Navy to many of the lessons learned growing up in DeMotte.

"I come from a farming town where I learned hard work and to never give up," said Boon.

The mission stems from the original 1961 Cold War order known as 'Take Charge and Move Out!' Adapted as TACAMO and now the command's nickname, today, the men and women of TACAMO continue to provide a survivable communication link between national decision makers and the na-

families. (See Demotte Pg. 16)

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POA - November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Brunch 10am-1pm @ Seasons Lakehouse every Sunday	POA Office Hours Monday to Friday 9 am—4 pm				1	2 Halloween Party @ 19th Hole with Night Shift 9 pm—midnight
3 Daylight Saving Time Ends—Set Clocks Back One Hour @ 2 am	4	5 Free N Fun Bar Bingo @ 19th Hole 6-8 pm	6 Lions Meeting 6 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse	7	8	9
10	11	12 Free N Fun Bar Bingo @ 19th Hole 6-8 pm Fishing Club Meeting 7pm Lower Level @ 19th Hole	13 Lions Meeting 6 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse	14 Historical Society Meeting 7 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse	15 Comedy Night Hosted by The Fundraisers 9 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse	16 19th Hole Entertainment with James Saqui 8-11 pm
17	18	19 Free N Fun Bar Bingo @ 19th Hole 6-8 pm	20 Customer Appreciation @ Seasons Lakehouse	21 Keen-Agers Luncheon Noon @ Seasons Lakehouse	22	23
24	25	26 House & Garden Club Luncheon 11:30am @ Seasons Lakehouse Free N Fun Bar Bingo @ 19th Hole 6-8 pm	27 POA Office Closes @ Noon Lions Meeting 6 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse Entertainment @ 19th Hole 9pm-Midnight With DJ Kenny G	28 Thanksgiving POA Office Closed Thanksgiving Brunch @ Seasons Lakehouse 10 am—2 pm	29 POA Office Closed for the Holiday	30

Lakes Department Annual Report

By Ryan Grady,
Lakes Director

The Lakes Department had another good year, setting and reaching many of our goals. Lake Patrol did a great job assisting boaters and helping with all of our Lake projects.

We started this year by bringing a company to do a fish audit on all the lakes. We

did this to create a management plan moving forward and to take an inventory of the fish. They advised us on future fish stockings, habitat enhancements, vegetation control, and addressed any aeration or water quality needs. We now have a good plan for the future.

We also replaced the Westhaven rental docks. The

Lakes Department along with help from the Operations Department removed the old dock system and we had a company come to install a new floating system. This is a big upgrade from what we had as the old docks were over 40 years old. Prior to this new system we were constantly making repairs.

With help from the Fishing Club, we stocked several tagged fish in Walt's Pond and anyone 17 and under that caught a tagged fish won a prize. The prizes ranged from fishing poles to tackle boxes and were donated by the fish-

ing club. The kids and parents that participated seemed to really enjoy this. This is something we will continue to do moving forward.

We purchased and installed a surface aeration unit for Lake on the Green. This serves many purposes but mostly it constantly provides necessary oxygen for the lake. It will also prevent future fish kills and enhance the water quality over time.

There were also some actions taken when it came to the blue-green algae blooms on Big Bass Lake. Along with letting most of the na-

tive rooted vegetation grow to act as a filter, we used some newer products that help bind phosphorus and minimize the extent of the blooms. There was a minor blue-green bloom on Big Bass Lake but nothing like past years and is definitely moving in the right direction. We will apply this product in Lake on the Green beginning next year.

Finally, we decided to extend Sandy Beach 150 feet on the north side. Next year we will have the swim area marked off with swim buoys in front of the seawall and the new area will be for boats to

pull up to. This will create more room as that beach can get crowded in the summer.

I would like to end by thanking the POA Board of Directors for giving me the tools to run my department, the Fishing Club and LEA for their donations and continued help. I would also like to thank Rick Cleveland for his help and guidance throughout the year and Jay Robison for all his time and dedication with the board over the past few years. I look forward to next year being as successful as this past year has been.

Lakes Department

By Mike Talley,
MS4 Coordinator
Proper Lakeside Leaf Disposal

It's fall and once again leaf clean up time. In the past, lakeside property owners have been seen blowing-

dumping leaves into the lakes. They probably don't realize the serious negative effects they are brewing up right outside their own back doors.

Leaves contain high levels of nutrients, such as nitro-

gen, phosphorus, and potassium. These are similar to the fertilizers you place on your yards. Just like in your yards these fertilizers cause plants including algae to grow in the lakes. Nature can somewhat handle the amount of leaves that naturally fall into the lakes from trees on a shoreline. It's when lakeside residents blow a hillside full of leaves into the lake that can upset the natural ecologi-

cal balance.

While the lakes need some plants and algae to contribute to a healthy food chain, too much can cause negative effects. For instance, when too many leaves are dumped into the lakes, the following year you will see an excessive amount of plant and algae growth in the lakes. As this overabundance of plant life dies, it decays, causing bacteria to use up the oxygen in

the water. The low oxygen levels can kill fish and other aquatic life. Some algae like blue green algae can release toxins that might harm humans and animal life as well as fish.

An environmentally sound and inexpensive way to dispose of fallen leaves is composting. Composting takes no more effort than bagging the leaves and finding a corner in the yard to place them.

As a result, the property owner will have the perfect material for mulching plants or bedding material. Mulching with compost adds nutrients back into the ground. If you have no interest in composting, the Lakes of the Four Seasons' Maintenance Department will be working hard picking up the leaves left alongside the streets.

Purdue University Northwest presents 'Beauty and the Beast'; several performances scheduled this month

Purdue University Northwest's Communication and Creative Arts Department will present Warren Graves' production of 'Beauty and the Beast' at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, November 8 and 9; at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 10; at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday,

November 22 and 23; and at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 24 in Alumni Hall in the Student Union & Library Building, located at 2233 173rd Street on the Hammond campus.

'Beauty and the Beast' is directed by Morgan McCabe, a faculty member in PNW's communication and creative

arts department. She has directed shows for more than 40 years and this is her fifth production at PNW.

"This show will be a magical retelling of the classic fable and a beautiful illustration of the transformative power of love and trust," McCabe said.

This story features a merchant named Blotti, who is unable to find his way home through a confounding forest after his misfortunes in the China seas and stumbles into the magic castle of the Beast. The Beast offers him riches to please his trio of lovely daughters, along with the Key of Journeys to find his way home again, if Blotti promises to send his youngest and purest daughter, Beauty, to live with him in

the Castle.

This non-musical version of the traditional fable is filled with wry humor, scenes of daring and magic that will appeal to adults, as well as children. It is Beauty's special magic of innocence and goodness that holds the key to the transformations of those she loves, and that ultimately frees the Beast from his prison.

Matthew Zipko, a PNW student majoring in market-

ing and accounting, plays the role of Blotti. "It's a classic fairytale with a twist. It still has the magic element but with added humor, darkness and romance," Zipko said.

Ticket pricing is \$15 for adults; \$12 for senior citizens; \$10 for students with a PNW ID and for students aged 12 to 18; and free to children under 12 years old. Tickets can be purchased online at www.pnw.edu/theatre or at the door.

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NEW PATIENTS SEEN SAME DAY!

YOU can be a part of LOFS Tulip Time!

Residents and visitors marvel at the beauty of the LOFS front entrance, especially when bleak winter is replaced with spring tulips in full bloom.

The Four Seasons House and Garden Club has joined with POA's amazing gardeners, Kim White and Timburley Ecklund, to inspire residents to expand the splendor of the front gate throughout the community.



House and Garden Club earmarked funds for bulbs to also be planted around the golf course, Seasons Lakehouse, parks, and public spaces. If residents join in planting tulips in their yards this fall, our neighborhood will reflect Holland, Michigan!

To be a part of our 2020 Tulip Time, don't hesitate . . . get out there and buy some bulbs. You can get them at Menards, Home Depot, Walmart, Niemeyer's, Aldi's, or online. It doesn't matter where -- just buy them. Here is a little advice: Bigger bulbs are better, wait to plant until the ground temperature is below 50 degrees, or even plant in pots and let them winter in your garage.

Once our gardens are in bloom, the Club will post photos online and in the *Seasonal*. An exhibit at the Seasons Lakehouse would be fun. All suggestions and ideas are welcome.

Watch the LOFS website, social media, and the *Seasonal* for additional information. Fall is not too early to think about Spring!

It is believed that planting yellow tulips in your front yard will bring you good luck and prosperity. What more incentive does one need to plant bulbs?



Announcing the Children's Annual Christmas Party

A fun and free event sponsored by the LOFS Lions

Sunday, December 8, 2019

1pm to 2:30pm at the LOFS Lakehouse

Featuring:

- Cookie Decorating
- Music and Singing
- Snacks and Gifts
- And..of course:

SANTA!

Bring Your Camera for free pictures with the Jolly Old Elf Himself

Naughty? Nice? We hope to see you there!

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



This Month in LOFS History: November 1971

“Welcome Wagon Hostess at Work!”

By Sally Lugo

Remember the Welcome Wagon? My family first moved to LOFS in 1985. Shortly thereafter I was contacted by a lovely young woman who brought me a LOFS Welcoming Kit filled with a LOFS phone book, area information, and LOFS clubs and organizations to consider joining.

In 1971 Marilyn Tsikouris was the LOFS Welcome Wagon Hostess who had actually organized the LOFS Welcome Wagon earlier that same year by, at her own expense, attending a mandatory week long hostess school in Lansing, Illinois sponsored by Welcome Wagon International.

It was up to Marilyn to promote the new club and find a variety of sponsors, each in a different field to provide new residents with sponsor small gifts, coupons or gift cards. In November



The Welcome Wagon car, a new Opel, was donated by Roseland Buick.

1971 Marilyn was able to announce to her new club members one of those sponsors, Roseland Buick, was generously donating a Buick Opel station wagon for the new club to use. It should be noted that then LOFS resident, Harold E. Young, was one of Roseland Buick's owners.

Although the day of door-to-door neighborly visits is a thing of the past, Welcome Wagon® is still committed to

connecting with new homeowners through their mailboxes and online. The mode of delivery may be different than before, but the mission is still the same today as it was in 1928. Welcoming families to their new homes by providing them with the information of the many local businesses and services that will benefit them as they settle into their new homes and communities.

(Demotte from Pg. 14)

tion's nuclear weapons.

The commander-in-chief issues orders to members of the military who operate nuclear weapons aboard submarines, aircraft or in land-based missile silos. Sailors aboard TACAMO E-6 Mercury aircraft provide the one-of-a-kind and most-survivable communication needed for this critical mission.

“It is a very supportive command that executes a

very important strategic mission,” said Boon.

The Navy's presence aboard an Air Force base in the middle of America may seem like an odd location given its distance from any ocean; however, the central location allows for the deployment of aircraft to both coasts and the Gulf of Mexico on a moment's notice. This quick response is key to the success of the nuclear deterrence mission.

“I am proud to be a part of the 24/7 response force ready at all times to deter adversaries and threats,” said Boon.

Sailors serving from America's heartland take pride in the vital mission they support as well as the nuclear deterrence they help provide.

“The Navy is an opportunity to serve my country and my God at the same time,” said Boon.

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Well maintained, light and bright home on the Golf Course! The attention to detail shows from the beautifully landscaped yard, paver brick covered front porch, bright foyer, to the elegant hardwood staircase and floors. Both living room & the dining room have large windows for tons of light and great views. The kitchen includes a pocket doors, pantry, plant ledge, look through to the large rec room and walk out to the huge deck overlooking the golf course. **\$234,897**



LAKE HOLIDAY HOME! This is a rare find- New Construction- 6 bedroom, 3.5 bath home. It is an Open concept with 1.5-story Main Floor Master. Cathedral ceiling living room sliders opening to the deck & a fabulous lake view. Master walks out to deck & Lake, the en-suite has HUGE walk-in closet, separate Tile shower & double sinks! Main floor finished laundry. Eat in kitchen opens to deck/ lake & to living room. **\$649,888**



Spacious 2-story 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, home on the end of a cul de sac with big wooded lot adjoining large Park & Fabulous views from backyard. Features a Big living room with big bay window, Large rec room with walk out to the two tiered deck, a clean & bright kitchen, white appliances, & large window with expansive views of yard/park **\$249,893**



Enjoy Lake Living! Great Lake Holiday home with open concept vaulted ceilings, big rooms & great lake views. Home features updated paint and brand new carpet!! The spacious living room w/gas fireplace opens to your dining room w/great lake views. **REDUCED! \$439,897**



Beautiful Custom built 2 story home offers 4 bedrooms & 3.5 baths. This stunning home has thoughtful details thru-out from the dramatic 2-story foyer, to stunning architectural barrel and trayed ceilings and other unique features. This is a must see! **\$424,973**



Beautifully Updated home on the golf course with Breathtaking views of the 1st fairway. Mature trees & vacant neighboring lot make this a private park like setting. Location close to the LOFS front gate, 19th hole restaurant, and easy access to the beach, pool and clubhouse. The homes NEW items include: Vinyl Siding, Double entry door, Furnace, Slow close kitchen cabinets, Granite counter tops, Tile Back splash, Stainless steel sink & appliances & much more! **\$249,893**



Open concept large 4 bedroom split level home with 3 car garage on a quiet cul de sac backing up to park. Lower level Master bedroom with huge walk in closet and giant private bath that has separate shower, sauna, corner tub, & double sink vanity. Beautiful living area that opens dining room and kitchen. Also large rec room with gas fireplace, laundry, & more 3 bedrooms upstairs. Don't Delay! **\$265,983**



Custom Built 5 bedroom 5 bath home on a Awesome wooded private lot. Premium Features through out. 2 sty foyer & living room w/wall of windows, Upgraded kitchen w/Wood Mode cabinets, large island w prep sink, granite counter tops, hardwood heated floors, attached Coach room with 2 sided fireplace, & open Sun room area with loads of windows and walk out to deck and beautiful views. Main floor Master suite w/tray ceiling, attached office, huge walk in closet, ensuite w/sep shower, whirlpool tub, heated tile floor. Features 9' ft ceilings on 1st level and basement **\$479,897**

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