



Seasonal

Publication of the Lakes of the Four Seasons Property Owners Association November 2017

POA Board President

By Jay Robison,
POA Board President

We're mid-way through our 51st year as a community and my report is full of good news. Although like any community of our age and size, we are not without some challenges as well.

Our 2017-2018 budget allowed us to further invest in the community. A short, but certainly not complete, list of some of the major accomplishments this year includes the completion of the engineered lake purity/drainage projects at the inflow off of 725 into Big Bass Lake and on the drainage off of holes 5 and 6 on the golf course that ultimately drain into Lake Holiday. Collectively this accounts for about 90% of the water flowing into our lakes. We invested in all new aerators in Big Bass Lake and some in Lake Holiday to help lake quality. We also moved the location of these aerators in both lakes based on the recommendation of the engineering study to become more effective.

We completed the Lake Holiday boat launch project by adding a new floating dock system. The POA Board increased spending on road paving from \$190,000 per year to \$300,000 this year, which translated means we paved about two-and-a-half miles of roads within the

community, as well as additional parking at the 19th Hole.

We also provided new playground equipment at Golf View Park, and upgraded a long list of much needed equipment and vehicles in many of the departments. Additionally, we completed an engineering study on drainage issues within the northwest area of the community which helped identify key issues we'll address as we can in terms of budgeting purposes.

We also replaced two large culverts on Green Valley Drive and one on Sunnyslope Drive as part of our ongoing replacement plan to help address proper water flow throughout the community.

Lastly, we transformed the old Clubhouse restaurant into the new Seasons Lakehouse with all an new menu, new look both inside and on the patio, and a slightly lower price point to provide not one, but two affordable dining options within the community for our residents.

Overall, each department is performing well against their budget this year in terms of expenses so far, and our revenues continue to be better than projected as well. Some contributing factors in over performing on the revenue side are less homes being delinquent on their

annual dues than we budgeted for, and the hard work of our POA office staff and Attorneys Ted Fitzgerald and Brian Less in collecting past years dues.

On the expense side of the budget, we are performing well against targets. This is a direct result of our Community Manager and his Department Directors diligently working within their respective budgets, and a lot of hard work by your POA Board. One specific example of note would be the additional training and certification on chemical application taken by Ryan Grady, our Lakes Director. This year alone will save us about \$25,000 dollars in maintenance contracts to treat our lakes himself rather than hire the work to be done. This will account for a \$45,000 budgeted line item to be either partially or fully eliminated next year and for years after.

Lastly, we moved some dollars (\$50,000) from last year's surplus carryover into a new account and budgeted another \$50,000 dollars in this year's budget to seed our new long-term building fund with \$100,000. As this continues to grow, this fund will be able to help offset any large building projects in the future. Many of our buildings either need to be replaced or need substantial repairs as many were built almost 50 years ago. So, the news, at this stage of the year, from a financial perspective is a very positive one for LOFS.

Serving on the board has been an eye-opening experience,



The current lineup of the LOFS POA Board of Directors includes Tim Swallers, Lori DuPratt, Jay Robison, Brad Zupan, and Don Tul.

I am amazed at just how much gets accomplished each year. There is a monumental amount of work each year that goes into making this community the place we all love and call home. Speaking of monumental tasks, I'd like to remind all directors, groups, and committees that any budget requests for our next fiscal year need to be submitted to the POA office by November 8.

The upcoming year will bring the need to address some of the areas that our drainage engineering study has brought to light. Keep in mind that we've only completed this study in just a portion of our community, so there is still a lot to do in terms of drainage.

In terms of an overall plan for our community, we have just selected a firm to complete our LOFS Master Plan which requires input from many sources like the POA Board, Community Manager, our staff, and you our residents. The purpose of this study is to help identify

needs and document the future direction of our community and the areas the residents would most like to see addressed, so when provided the opportunity, please provide your input.

The finished product of this master plan should prove as a roadmap for the community for years to come. Each future board should align their goals and objectives with the Master Plan as it will serve as a playbook provided to them from the residents they support. Lastly, as always, we'll need to insure we are properly addressing our aging infrastructure and allocating the appropriate resources where needed.

In conclusion, I would like to offer some heartfelt thanks. Thanks to our Community Manager Rick Cleveland, his team of directors, and their staff for all their dedication this year. Thanks to all the organizations and committees for all their insight, volunteerism, and all they do to enhance the quality of life within our community. Thanks to our attorneys for

their guidance, hard work, and our long-standing and mutually beneficial relationship over the years. I also would like to extend a huge thank you to the 2017 Board of Directors. I cannot thank you all enough for your insight, guidance, and expertise as well as the countless hours of devotion to insuring this community is such an amazing place to live.

A special thanks to our exiting board member, Vice President Rob Rablehofer, for the last two years of devotion in serving our community. It has been a pleasure getting to know you and your family, and your input has been part of the betterment of our community. I hope that when you're done furthering your education, you'll consider returning to the POA Board. You are a true asset to our community!

It takes mammoth team effort to make things run as smoothly as they do here in our community. We should all be thankful to have the team we have!



Farewell good friends, and enjoy Arizona

LOFS residents of over 38 years Gordon and Louise Ensing bid their farewells to friends on October 18 at the Seasons Lakehouse. The dynamic duo will now make Mesa, Arizona, their permanent home. Gordon and Louise most certainly leave their indelible mark on our community. Gordon, a former Board of Director, has saved our community thousands of dollars with both his financial and insurance wisdom. The couple has served countless hours volunteering on various committees and groups both before and after they met! Which brings us to the question: Just how did Gordon and Louise (aka Gordo & Weezy) meet? The answer: Helping with Lakes of The Four Seasons 25th Anniversary events! Gordon & Louise, "There are no goodbyes for us because wherever you are, you will always be in our hearts."



Employees, Volunteer of the Year honored at annual meeting Employees of the year Gina Miller and Raymundo Juarez are shown pictured with Rick Cleveland. Also picture with Rick is the Volunteer of the Year, Sally Lugo.

POA Community Manager

The General Administration Department continues to do the daily tasks of serving residents through the POA Office. Their responsibilities include preparing paperwork for the sale of properties to the rental of pavilions. The staff computes the sale of all amenity purchases such as stickers for vehicles, boats, golf carts, and dog park tags. The office staff also details, computes and files every purchase that is made by each department. They answer countless numbers of incoming phone calls.

The office staff is always willing to answer all questions or to do their best to find a response for you. We continue to work with the POA attorneys on the collection of delinquent dues and other important POA matters. There were only 16 vacant properties to have maintained this summer; that's 10 less than last year and 18 less than the prior year. That's good news.

The golf course was in good condition this season. The Golf Maintenance crew was able to work on several projects throughout the season to improve drainage, aesthetics, and playability while continuing to maintain the course. We were very lucky

to not have as much damage during the excess heat this summer as we could have had. Doug is also our licensed mosquito control technician along with Ryan our Lakes Director. We received numerous compliments this season for controlling the mosquito population by utilizing the fogging equipment we purchased this year.

The Operations and Building Maintenance Departments, our largest and most active, continue with their daily maintenance of the common areas, POA buildings and miscellaneous structures as well as many new projects. Both departments had a very active summer. The crew did a great job setting up and cleaning up after the concerts and the 4th of July event. They mowed approximately 250 acres of parks and common areas each week during the growing season along with keeping each area trimmed and looking nice. They just completed fall branch collections, which takes up a lot of their time from the normal day to day maintenance of the community and soon they will be collecting leaves.

The Food and Beverage Department did well when



Rick Cleveland

the fiscal year ended on February 28, 2017. The total loss was less than budgeted by almost \$30,000. We must continue making changes when necessary to keep the quality of food and service a high standard. We must continue making improvements to the buildings inside and out to improve service and keep patrons coming back for more.

The Public Safety Department continues with their day-to-day activities of checking in guests and patrolling the community. The department was very active again this year and did great job with covenant enforcement. Citations issued for covenant and miscellaneous traffic violations increased over last year.

One of the greatest assets of Lakes of the Four Seasons is perhaps our lakes. With nearly 280 acres of water in LOFS, lakes maintenance is very important especially considering these manmade

lakes are over fifty years old. The over-warming of the lake waters and drought conditions we encountered this summer were very stressful to our lakes as well as other lakes throughout the state; thus an increase in Blue-Green Algae outbreaks. The Lakes Department was very active in trying to manage these outbreaks. They also continue their water monitoring activities of all lakes and their policing of the watersheds. Beach maintenance, aquatic plantings, shoreline stabilization and boat patrol are just a few of the things that the Lakes Department does each year as well.

We completed a few lake and watershed projects this year including the 725 floodplain expansion and the #5 & 6 wetland plantings. All completed per the sediment analysis and watershed evaluation performed by Cardno Engineering.

During the next couple of months the Department Managers, Board of Directors, and I will be working on the 2018-19 budget. The department directors and I will be obtaining estimates for the various projects and equipment purchases so we can put budget numbers together. Trying to get all of the Capital Improvements and Equipment requests made by residents, Department Directors, and the Board of Directors placed into the budget while trying to keep dues at a level acceptable by all is impossible. The Board of Directors will make tough choices when prioritizing and determining on what gets approved and what gets cut.

I would like to thank all of the employees of Lakes of the Four Seasons and the Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication over the past year. I would like to welcome back Brad Zupan as our newest member of the POA Board of Directors and I look forward to working with him. A special thanks to the outgoing Board Member Rob Rabelhofer for volunteering his time on the POA Board; I enjoyed working with you.

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Fundraising Committee

The LOFS Fundraising Committee formed in 2001, just completed its 16th year fundraising for our community. Our committee is currently composed of 6 hard-working individuals who volunteer their time to fundraise and put back into the community in the form of community enhancements.

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; selling glow merchandise, candy and popcorn at the summer concerts, and our popular Spring Fashion show/ luncheon. Through these events this past year we were able to add just over \$8,000 to our total with over \$175,000 raised year to date since inception in 2001!

We are very proud of the projects and donations we have been able to accomplish through our fundraising efforts. We have come a long way from our first donation of emergency equipment for the security boat. Some of our projects that we have taken on throughout our years have been: Remodeled Teen Center; Replaced the retaining wall at the Teen Center; Purchased and built

the Gazebo at the restaurant; Remodeled the West Lounge, Restaurant, and Lounge with new decor; purchased the backdrop for the bands at the summer concerts, assisted in the waterfall at the 19th Hole; paid for the sign at the side gate; purchased uniforms and bike lights for security; donated to the building of the Garry Weiss Pavilion; purchased the scoreboards for our LOFS Baseball league, donated to the Wounded Warrior project, purchased a new grill for the Clubhouse, as well as added 4 new umbrellas and sun flags for extra shade at the pool.

We are currently working with our Community Manager Rick Cleveland, and our Maintenance Department to complete enhancements to our pool area. In our plans for the pool, we will add landscaping, lighting, additional sitting areas, signage, and colorful shaded umbrellas. We also will be adding painted murals to enhance a motif of "fun in the sun"! Total completion is set for Spring of 2018.

Our Fall Fundraising kicked off with the first of three Comedy nights to a packed house. We will be back November 11 with our second show and finally

ring in the NEW Year with a January 2018 show. We are currently already working & shopping for our Spring 2018 Style show/ Luncheon that is planned for April-2018.

Lastly, as a committee, we are excited to be judging the Holiday Light displays again this year, throughout the community. We will have some great prizes in many categories, so watch your Seasonal and Winfield paper for details. Remember to 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 Face book @ LOFS FRC or visit us on the community website @ 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 Valerie Gemenz, her Seasons Lakehouse staff and to our maintenance crew that always assist us in making our Comedy Nights and concert set-ups go as smoothly as possible. Last but not least..a BIG THANK YOU to our community for continuing to support our efforts!



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Advocate's Corner by Jill McNamara



Were you aware that not every U.S. Veteran will be eligible to receive a graveside honor guard memorial service? I certainly did not. In 2006, when my father, who served in the U.S. Air Force died, the funeral director simply contacted his local American Legion Post and that was all it took to provide an honor guard memorial service at the cemetery. Eight years later, when my father-in-law, who served in the U.S. Navy and fought during World War

II and the Korean War, died he was deemed ineligible to request an honor guard memorial service. What made him ineligible? The fact that his death certificate revealed he was under-age at the time he enlisted. He, like many other, young men and boys, who lied about their age when they enlisted, would eventually be chastised for their patriotism. I read one account of a twelve year-old boy whose acts of selfless heroism were recognized through numerous military honors, including the recipient of the Purple Heart. When it was discovered that this boy was under-age at the time of his

enlistment, he was stripped of all of his military honors, including the Purple Heart. If you are interested in reading more about those who "were too young to serve," information can be found at www.oldvums.org. Personally speaking the only time I have ever heard the words of being "too young to serve" were spoken at either a restaurant, bar, or liquor store. Whenever I think about the words "too young to serve," and the half a century that lapsed before my father-in-law's under-age enlistment date was identified, I begin to wonder if anything can be done to provide compensation to the selfless

and patriotic veterans who eventually would be identified as being "too young to serve." These are the questions I hope Representative Pete Visclosky will one day be able to answer. Recently, my husband, who is a U.S. Army Veteran, received an invitation to join the Crown Point American Legion. The convenience of the information provided on the postcard, made it easy to contact the organization about its location and how to join. I am quite sure he will join over the Veteran's Day Weekend instead of watching football. If you or someone you know is a veteran, who has

thought about joining a local American Legion or VFW, but wanted to have more information before making the decision to join, here are the phone numbers of the American Legions or a VFW Posts near the LOFS. To contact Crown Point's American Legion's Post 20 call 219-663-9788 or Valparaiso's American Legion Post 94 at 219-462-4452. Since Crown Point does not have its own VFW Post, the following is a list of surrounding communities with a VFW Post includes: Valparaiso 219-464-3668; Merrillville 219-769-1563; Hobart 219-942-6474; and St. John 219-365-8824.

Jill McNamara is the Founder and Executive Director of Miscarriage, Mothers & Others; a Bereavement Specialist for Elizabeth Ministry International; and a Parent Support Volunteer for the Indiana Resource Center for Families with Special Needs. You may contact her at: jillmcnamara@comcast.net



Public Safety Department

By Craig Philp, Public Safety Director
Over the past year, a lot has changed within the department. From our recent title changed from 'security' to Public Safety, we have added a fourth vehicle to the department, and purchased a hybrid gas/electric cart to help patrol the golf course and other areas. While these three things may not seem like a lot to most, for my staff and I, the added equipment has made the job we do a little easier at times. Adding the vehicle has allowed us to slow down the wear and tear on cars, by allowing us to put one to rest for periods instead of driving it year 'round. The hybrid cart now allows us to patrol the golf course quietly, especially during the night hours when we chance waking people up while looking for those vandalizing the course or other property. We have purchased body camera/mics for each of the officers to help alleviate some of the complaints filed as well as for usage in training on what officers can improve on.

patrols an assigned beat and responds to emergency calls to protect persons or property from crimes, fires, or other hazards. Patrols assigned area on foot or using a vehicle to regulate traffic, control crowds, prevent crime, or arrest violators. They also attend public gatherings to maintain order, i.e. concerts, 4th of July,

etc.; respond to fire alarms or other emergency calls for service; administer first aid and artificial respiration to injured persons; they may inspect establishments for compliance with local regulations; and they may drive and operate emergency equipment. Therefore, as you can see, by definition, the current staff employed by the LOFS goes way beyond the definition or job description of a security officer on a daily basis. We have and will continue to respond to domestic or residential disputes, property alarms, traffic accidents, residential/

vehicle entries, medical trauma / life-saving calls, to dogs barking, while at the same time enforcing the covenants and rules of the community. Moreover, we are able to do this at no extra cost to the POA or the residents. **Statistical information from October of 2016 through September 14, 2017**

- Assist outside departments – 102
- EMS calls – 299
- Assist Fire – 38
- Covenant Violations – 828
- 391 letters notifying other covenant violations have been sent to residents which is not reflected in covenant number
- OWI - 36
- Traffic Stops / Other - 1,118
- Speeding - 442
- Stop Sign Violation - 273
- All other - 403
- Reported Accident PD/PI - 15

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The change of department from Security to Public Safety was a long time coming. As stated in a past article, the job this department does has grown beyond the title or definition of 'security'. We do more when it comes down to it. Security, by definition, is a private person who is hired to protect the employing party's assets from a variety of hazards by using preventative measures. They do this by maintaining a high-visibility presence to deter illegal and inappropriate actions, observing for signs of crime, fire, or disorder; then taking action to minimize damage and reporting any incidents to their client and emergency services, such as police and ambulance. A Public Safety Officer is described as a person who



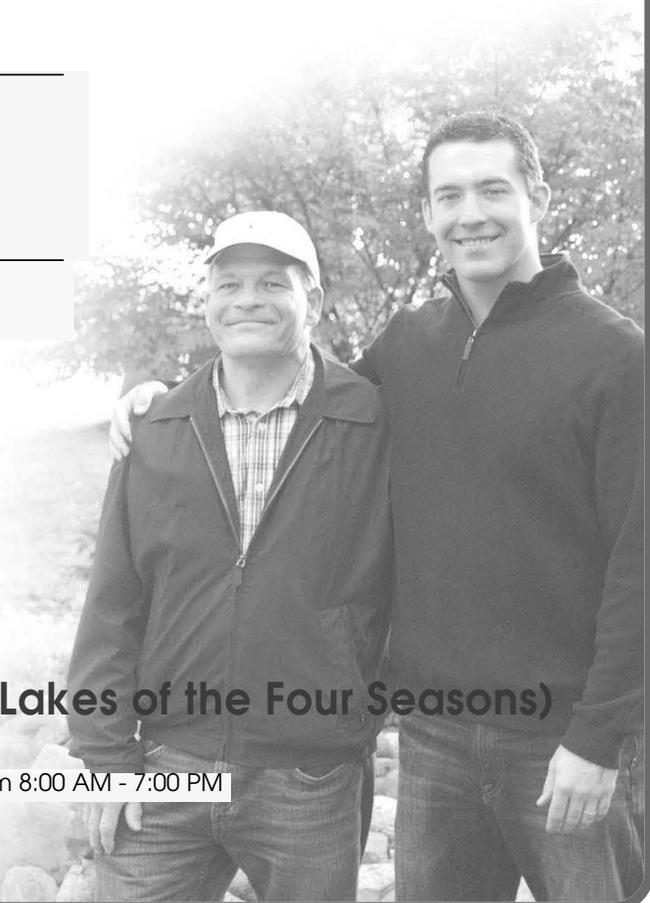
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Historical Society

By Sally Lugo, Chairperson

In December 2016, four LOFS residents proposed a new sanctioned organization, The LOFS Historical Society, and requested and ultimately received approval from the LOFS Board of Directors. The new organization was announced to the community through The Seasonal and on February 9, 2017, twenty-two people ranging in ages ten to eighty met to form the new group with Community Manager Rick Cleveland and the group's Board Liaison, Lori DuPratt.

Two needs were identified to benefit LOFS directly; 1) Post the 50th Anniversary and the LOFS Historical-Memorabilia Book the group continue to document the history of the community and its area history, and 2) through volunteerism assist The Seasonal publication by providing entertaining, educational, and interesting articles and photos for its readers as well as assist with organizational efforts of historical documents, such as old Seasonal issues.

Volunteers within the group quickly stepped for-

ward to fill offices and offer their writing and photography talents to The Seasonal. Sub-committees formed to develop both the group's Mission Statement: "The mission of the Historical Society of Lakes of the Four Seasons is to collect, preserve, catalog, and display artifacts, documents, oral, photographic and video histories, of all aspects of Lakes of the Four Seasons and surrounding areas. Our purpose is to educate current and former residents of all ages from LOFS and others of our rich and significant history" and By-Laws."

At the March 9, 2017, Meeting HS of LOFS officers were elected.

With organizing formalities completed, the membership looked for fun and fundraising opportunities. Marshall Anderson developed a webpage and Cindy Bean offered to serve as Facebook administrator. At our May 5, 2017, meeting guest speaker Kevin Pazour of the Porter County Historical Society Museum provided the audience not only a historical overview

of Porter County but also offered to help further educate our membership.

Dawn Shepard attended a workshop held at the Porter County Museum on fundraising and ideas. Larry Carlson is chairing a time capsule committee to be completed by year's end with plans to open in ten to fifteen years. October 26 the group will hold its First Annual Pumpkin Decorating-Carving Contest. Forms can be found in our lobby to obtain more information.

Field trips were planned and on November 4, 2017, the group is planning a caravan to visit old area cemeteries with Walt Pluchinsky. Next spring an offer for residents to "Tour LOFS Country Club's Flower Gardens" will be offered and the group plans to take a train ride with volunteer conductor Ted Fitzgerald.

A July 4th, 2017, a photo contest was held. The winning photos may be viewed in our Seasons Lakehouse entrance area thanks to the efforts of Jim Rettker. The Board of Directors has requested the group continue to provide interesting or historical photos and artifacts in the entrance area. Soon new photos will replace the existing. The group has raised most of its current funds through collection of the \$5 parking fee

at the July 19, 2017, concert.

Through the months our membership has continued to grow to twenty-seven. We invite anyone interested in attending our meetings to join us! Currently there are no membership fees and the group is open to both POA and non-POA members. We simply ask that you have a love for history and our community area.

Being a sanctioned committee, however, offices must be filled by POA members in good standing. Resigning from their posts effective the annual meeting and respectively request re-appointment are Chairperson Sally Lugo, Secretary Nancy Porter, Treasurer Collette Perez, and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Eileen Ryan.

I'd like to personally thank our Seasonal volunteer writers who plan to continue through next year along with myself. We hope the community has enjoyed the efforts of Junior Reporter Emma Vandenberg, Advocate Jill McNamara, historical buff extraordinaire Walter Pluchinsky, and our photographers Jim Rettker and Cindy Bean. I feel our community is very fortunate to have so many talented people working hard within our group to do their part to make Lakes of The Four Seasons a great place to reside.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF LOFS

Announces upcoming events!

November 4th – 10:00 AM

Meet at the 19th Hole

Restaurant

Participants will caravan with our own local Historian

Walt Pluchinsky

Touring old area cemeteries.

Please Join Us!

The Historical Society of LOFS

Presents Guest Speaker

KATHERINE HOEGER FLOTZ

Katherine shares her story of survival in the turmoil of World War II in Yugoslavia. As a child Katherine was separated from her family and held in a concentration camp, suffering serious illness, hunger and fear. Her husband's family travelled throughout Germany during the last months of WWII always one step ahead of the enemy... a holocaust of another faith in another country.

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POA Board Treasurer

By Don Tull,
POA Board Treasurer

This report covers our fiscal year, which ended February 28, 2017.

For the year, our total revenue was \$5,431,993 vs. the prior year of \$5,183,590. Our total expenses were \$5,166,565 vs. the prior year of \$4,916,861. Our combined total fund balance, or equity, increased from \$4,932,908 in 2016 to \$5,198,710 year-over-year.

We ended the year with unrestricted cash of \$937,494 vs. \$781,362 prior year. The increase of unrestricted cash was primarily due to more property owners paying their dues beyond what we budgeted and from payments of past dues.

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 last year we had approximately 50 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.

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 and I look forward to another great year.

Fight back against Parkinson's at Franciscan program

People fighting Parkinson's disease now have Rock Steady Boxing, a new program at Franciscan Health Fitness Centers, in their corner.

The program is designed to improve the mobility, balance and strength of such patients through non-contact boxing, stretching, balance, strength

and mobility training. Two longtime and experienced health coaches, Debbie Scanlon and Jane Bogordos, will work with participants.

For more information, call 219-322-1600, ext. 4013. Franciscan Health Fitness Centers is located at 221 U.S. Highway 41.

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LOFS Fundraising Committee to host Comedy Night on November 11

This evening will bring a night of fun and laughs for everyone to enjoy! Reserve your seats fast for this great night; it's sure to be a sell-out! Call Christie Falls at 219-308-0087, or online at Facebook: LOFS FRC. Seating is limited and tickets are already selling!

Prepayment is being requested for this evening to guarantee your place. Tickets are \$15 per person with the show starting at 9 p.m. If you are planning on dining at the Lakehouse prior to the show, reservations are separate, and recommended, by calling 219-988-2582.

The Fundraising Committee is also supporting two great causes this Fall and are asking for your support. Every Child Deserves a Christmas and The Food Pantry. We are asking all at-

tending comedy night to either bring a toy or canned good or both to help add to these great causes. You will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win two comedy night tickets. Let's help those less fortunate.

Kicking off our evening will be our Feature, Erv Dahl, known as "The World's Greatest Rodney Dangerfield Impersonator", and the popular semi-finalist from ABC talent show for celebrity tribute artists, The Next Best Thing. Erv astounds his audiences and many people have EVEN told Erv that he sounds like Rodney Dangerfield more than Rodney Dangerfield himself, if that is even possible! Erv's audiences don't stop talking about what they just experienced; that is once they stop laughing.



Erv Dahl



Harley Hehr

Headlining this fun night will be none other than LOFS's very own Harley Hehr. Harley is an accomplished singer whose first love is comedy-so Harley decided to uniquely combine the two. Moreover, audiences marvel at Harley's exact vocal impressions of such famous celebrities as Elvis, Louis Armstrong, Roy Orbison, Franki Valli, Johnny Cash,

and a host of others. Harley is best known for his quick wit and subtle sarcasm. He loves to interact with a crowd and has a charisma that creates a party atmosphere that encompasses the entire audience.

So, join us for some laughs for a night that won't disappoint. Don't forget your toy or canned good and we'll see you there!

are hoping to have it implemented in a few weeks.

In conclusion, I just want to thank everyone again. I am always open to suggestions or recommendations. Thank you to the community

for making the 19th Hole so successful. I look forward to keeping it that way and feedback from the community and fellow employees makes that possible.

19th Hole Grille

By Stacie Barnhart, 19th Hole Manager

First I would like to thank Rick, Valerie, the Board, and the community for the opportunity to return to the 19th Hole as the manager. I look forward to the challenge, and am happy to be working in the community again. I appreciate your patience and understanding as I acclimate to my new position. I am getting more confident and have established a routine with my job requirements. And I would like to thank Valerie for all her help and always answering my questions without hesitation!

My goals are to continue to improve the customer service experience to our patrons. To work with the staff on improving overall moral and setting goals in making positive changes in the work environment. To work on the cleaning and organization of the kitchen and front of house. Having regular staff meetings will help keep these goals and what is expected more consistent.

Advertising is also something I am working on being consistent with as well. Social media, putting coupons in the

Winfield American paper, and through the text message app. Also promoting featured items and discounted pricing to entice customers to visit.

Golf season is coming to an end. We had a successful season with the outings and events throughout the last few months. For Ben Boyd and I, both being new to our positions, we worked well together to make each event the best experience. It was a learning curve for us both, and we feel confident that we will be even better next season. Our hours will be changing for the fall season. However, I will be communicating with Paul when there are days with favorable weather to ensure there are services available for our golfers.

I am in the learning process as far as the budget goes. I will be working on budgeting for things to make the 19th Hole more efficient in both kitchen services, as well as customer service.

Ben and I are currently working on a new menu; we are excited and hope it will be pleasing to the customers. We are adding some fun changes, but keeping some of the customer's favorites. We

LOFS Fire Auxiliary offers many thanks

The LOFS Fire Auxiliary wants to thank our supporters for making our Crazy Bunco a huge success as usual. We had 88 players and excellent homemade food prepared by our members. We sold 150 gift baskets and gave out prizes to our 10 top scorers. We are especially grateful to our sponsors, namely: Indiana Furniture Showcase (Gary Steinhilber), Cracker Barrel, LOFS Comedy Club - Fundraising Committee, Sam's Club, LOFS POA, A+ Hair Salon, Strawberry Fields Pancake House, Baja's Restaurant,

Wendy VanDenburgh-Coldwell Banker Realty.

We will announce our plans for 2018 sometime in late January.

Important! We have changed the date for our *Stop, Drop, & Donate* to December 9, the second Saturday of December for both Lake and Porter Counties. That is when we drive our fire trucks through these areas collecting food and monies for the food pantries. Be sure to mark your calendars, your help is most needed at the time of year.



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Lakes of the Four Seasons



Hole Grille

ENTERTAINMENT LINE UP

Nov 4th Chris and Lou
Nov 11th Terry Klema
Nov 18th Buck Daddy
Nov 22nd Black Wednesday Party with DJ Kenny G
Entertainment is from 9pm-12am, and is 21yrs and older!

Kids eat free, Monday-Wednesday! With the purchase of any sandwich, large salad or large pizza.

Monday nights are 1/2 off appetizers! Excludes wings and dine in only please! \$4 Tall Octoberfest Drafts, \$3 Flavored Vodka Drinks!

Tuesday nights are Pasta night \$9.95! Pair it up with your favorite glass of wine for \$4, or for dessert try our \$5 Chocolate Martini!

Wednesday nights are all about Comfort food! Serving up all your favorites \$8.95! \$2.25 Domestic Bottles, \$6 Tall Calls!

Thursday nights are Pizza night, \$10 Large Thin Crust Cheese Pizzas! \$2 Tall Drafts, \$5 Tall Calls!

Friday nights are AYCE Fish or Shrimp \$9.95, or make it a combo for \$14.95!
\$2 Domestic \$3 Import Bottles!

Saturdays 1/2 lb Burgers are \$7 all day! \$3 Capt Morgan hiball drinks, \$5 Jack Daniels hiball drinks!

Sunday Fundays are all about Football!!! Free pizza at halftime during Bears games!
\$13 Domestic buckets! Dinner special is Ribs, 1/2 slab \$13 or Full slab \$20!

Don't forget to ask for soup of the day!

Happy Thanksgiving from the 19th Hole Family to yours!!

988-2282 ~19th Hole Grille is closed on Thanksgiving Day~
NEW HOURS: Mon., Tues. & Weds. 3 - 9pm Thurs. 11am - 9pm Fri. - Sat. 11am - 10pm Sun. 11am - 9pm
Note: Bar may remain open later than posted
 19thholemgr@lofs.org





Local resident Bill Nicol gets surprise birthday party
Longtime LOFS resident Bill Nicol was surprised by his family and friends with a birthday party at the Seasons Lakehouse last month as he turned 80. Happy birthday and many more, Bill!

House & Garden

House & Garden Club members learn about financial fraud at monthly meeting

Kelly Griese, Senior Investor Education Coordinator for the Indiana Secretary of State had everyone's attention at the Garden Club's October 26 meeting. Her topic was financial fraud, and her review of common ways seniors become victims hit home for many.

She shared a documentary

presenting real stories of investment fraud in Indiana through the eyes of the victims. One of the featured criminals had been a student in the grammar school where one of the club's members was principal. The grandchild calling in the middle of the night, in trouble with the law, needing money, and not wanting mom and dad to know scam was all too familiar to at least one member of the audience.

The message was clear if

a situation is at all suspicious report it. If you don't know the person on the other end of the telephone line, hang up. Be smart. Be careful. Be safe.

Hats off to Carol Jeslis who for two years has planned programs that have informed and entertained!

The club will not have a meeting in November, but the Christmas luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 5. Come join us. Meetings are the last Tuesday of each month, at noon, at the Seasons Lakehouse. For information call Patricia German at 219-662-4162 or Mary Cavallini at 219-988-5879.

By Patricia German, Club President

The House and Garden Club began our 38th year and we are 70 members strong. The purpose of this club is to provide social programs for the members, to provide financial support for the beautification of the gardens in the Lakes of the Four Seasons and for special projects for the community.

Monthly meetings are held in the Seasons Lakehouse ballroom on the last Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin with a luncheon provided by the members, followed by a program of interest and ending with a brief business meeting.

The programs this year

covered a variety of topics including a presentation by Jeff Manes, a writer for the Post Tribune, featuring a collection of interviews with people of Northwest Indiana. Wayne Gruber shared "Landscaping Design for Small Spaces". We also had a variety of musical presentations which were enjoyed by our members.

This past year we were able to contribute to the beautification of the 2nd hole on the golf course, supply water exercise equipment to the community pool and purchase a sculpture for our memorial gardens as well as assisting in the financial maintenance of our LOFS gardens.

We are pleased to continue financially assisting the enhancement of the garden areas and other projects that benefit our community. We also decorate the Seasons Lakehouse during the holiday season.

Our major fundraiser this year was our Mum sale held in September. We also had smaller fundraisers throughout the year such as collecting parking fees at one of the summer concerts, a "dollar table" at four of our meetings, a 50/50 raffle and a jewelry and accessory sale. We thank the community and members for their support and we hope to continue to "beautify" our community.

Spirit of Thanksgiving is all about showing gratitude

By Emma Vandenburg, Junior Reporter



The spirit of Thanksgiving is all about showing gratitude for your good fortune and giving to those who are less fortunate. Express your thanks this holiday season by involving the whole family in volunteering, donating, and spreading kindness. Try these great ideas to teach about graciousness and goodwill.

Have you ever worked at a soup kitchen? Have you ever helped stock the shelves at the food pantry? Or what about having your family make cards for the nursing home?

As a Girl Scout, our troop has given back to our community in the above ways and nothing makes you feel better than giving.

So when you're full from all the turkey and pumpkin pie, remember someone

has gone without a meal, remember the hurricane victims who still don't have a home, remember all the service men and women who are working to keep our families safe while sitting at home watching football. Remember to be kind and give thanks!

Maya Angelou was right on the money when she said, "No one has ever become poor from giving." Happy Thanksgiving!

LOFS Girl Scouts

LOFS Girl Scout Troop 35135 is proud to support and to be supported by our community. We are a multi-level troop ranging from Daisies to Cadets (age 5 to 12).

The Girl Scouts this year held many community service events including a Comfort Bear drive where we collected over 1,000 bears which we donated to seven local police and fire departments.

We held a food drive. When we heard the food pantry shelves were empty, and with the help of our community, in a few hours' time we collected three pickup trucks filled with food.

Our first blood drive, with the help of Karly Wauro a LOFS lifeguard and Jan Green from the LOFS Lions Club, we were able to collect 52 units of blood; that is enough blood to save 145 lives. There was such a great response we unfortunately had to turn away people. The American Red Cross was amazed at the turnout; a normal drive brings in about 30 to 40 units.

In addition to our community service projects, our Juniors were able to complete their Bronze Award. The Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards are the highest awards a Girl Scout can earn. For their Bronze Award our Juniors planned, asked for

donations, and built a 'ga ga pit' in Lions Park, thanks in part to our POA board and the Lions Club. In addition, the troop collected enough plastic caps for a bench which is located by the ga ga pit.

What does 2018 hold in

store for us? Our Juniors and Cadets will begin the planning of their Bronze and Silver awards. This troop is girl led and they are beginning to plan their community service projects and we know that our Board and community will support us.

As you can see LOFS Girl Scout Troop 35135 does more than just sell cookies! We are Go-getters... Innovators... Risk-takers... Leaders.

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Save \$10 on your purchase of \$50 or more of regular-priced merchandise on Saturday, November 25 & Sunday, November 26, only.

Get 15% off your entire purchase of regular-priced merchandise online and in-store on Monday, November 27, only.

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Nearby cemeteries in Porter Township reveal pieces of area's past

Part 2, by Walt Pluchinsky,
LOFS Historical Society

We have previously detailed the cemeteries in Winfield Township and the three near the Four Seasons in Porter Township. We now describe the other nearby cemeteries, past and present, in Porter Township, Porter County.

The Porter Township Trustee arranges for the maintenance of four other cemeteries in the township. The Fehrman Cemetery (also called the Lantz/Shurr/Weaver Cemetery) is located next to the Trustee's office,

which is at 454 County Road W, 300 S, about one-half mile east of CR 500W. The cemetery, established in 1854, contains about 82 graves, with the earliest burial in 1855 and the latest in 2005. Some of the tombstones are broken and illegible. The most prominent markers include names of Lantz, Bearss, Krieger, Weiler, and Coaker. Of interest is the grave of Jacob Rutt (b. 1793, d. 1869).

The Luddington Cemetery, established in 1853, is located on CR 500 W, about one-half mile north of Route 2. This cemetery is very well kept,

having about 305 graves, with only the occasional broken or illegible markers. The earliest burial was in 1853 and the latest was in 2017. The cemetery contains the remains of some Civil War veterans as well as some from both world wars. The large tombstones with names of Ptacek, Wetzler, Luddington, Bearse, and Dahlover are very prominent.

The Merriman Cemetery, established in 1856, is located at 247 W County Road 475 S, just north of Boone Grove, and somewhat hard to find. There are about 235

graves with many illegible and broken tombstones. The earliest burial was in 1856 and the latest observed was in 2012. Names include Dibben, Dye, Wolf, Sawyer, and Ritter.

The Fleming Cemetery, established in 1843, is located at 46 S County Road 200 W, about one-half mile south of Division Road. There are at least 302 graves. The cemetery is very well kept, but some markers are illegible or in disrepair. The earliest burial was in 1858, and the latest in 2005. Names on very large prominent tombstones

are Cobb, Church, Mason, Huffman, Halck, Rigg, and Priest.

There were at least six other family cemeteries in the township that no longer exist, as determined in a thorough search by the Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society in the mid 1990s. The Lake Eliza Cemetery was located on the west side of that lake. A Sheffield Cemetery had an unknown location. A Smith Cemetery, with graves of several young girls, was located near the present day CR 300 W, south of 100 S. A Dunn Cemetery had several graves

on the widow Dunn farm, one-half mile south of Salem Cemetery, just east of County Line Road.

A cemetery with two different names (Miller/Quinn or Glen Kingery) was located south of CR 300 S and west of CR 350 W, near the angled Phillips Road. Lastly, the Robinson Cemetery, located south of CR 100 S, west of Route 2, and north of the railroad, was reported to include the remains of 12 year old John Robinson, one of the first deaths in the township, from an axe cut in 1832.

Lion's Club

By Jackie Katz, President

The Lions had a productive and fulfilling year in the year of our 100th anniversary celebration as an organization. We continue to follow our organization's motto: We Serve.

The Lions performed a number of community proj-

ects, including donating over \$8,000 to local food banks, holding an 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.

Supporting our commu-

nity 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.

Of course, with all of the hurricanes this year, the Lions stepped up as well, collecting and sending in donations from the local community and our national community. Over \$100,000 was donated nationally from the Lions LCIF emergency fund. Locally, our Lions group has set aside an emer-

gency fund for those in the community who may need items or a place to stay during a disaster, fire, or other concern.

To do all of these things requires fund raising and our new fund raiser this year was a big hit in the community. We are selling cases and half cases of steaks; so there is a lot of support from those who enjoy grilling in our local area.

We held a polar plunge for those brave souls who run into icy water, a pork chop

dinner and steak fry, a golf outing and our annual candy day. And today you can find Lions at our gates collecting for White Cane Day, an annual sight project fundraiser.

For the first time, we held a Superhero Event for the kids, a fundraiser that featured Batman, Green Lantern, Spiderman, the Joker, and Harley Quinn, with the famous Bat Dog greeting everyone outside.

Coming up on March 11 next year is the Princess Brunch. This fund raiser is a

lot of fun for not just the participants, but Lions members as well. So, ready your tiara, and join the Lions as they work to support the needs of our community.

In closing, thank you to all of the community who generously support our events and donate to Lions causes. See you at our next outing! For more information contact jackiepkatz@aol.com or lofs-lions@aol.com.

Operations Department

By Roy Green, Director of Operations

I would like to thank the present Board and Rick Cleveland for appointing me Director of Operations and showing faith in me for this job and making my first year a wonderful experience.

I have learned a lot about the time and effort it takes to make Lakes of the Four Seasons operate. Just doing the budget for my departments is mind-boggling. But to do it for each department; then put it together as one must be a headache.

I would like to thank Rob for all his time and effort being part of the Board. And his wife for letting him do it. I would like to welcome Brad back on Board and I look forward to working with him.

Our year started out great since our last meeting. We are

all moved in to our new location at 3861 Kingsway Drive in the southwest corner of the community. This new location has opened many doors, not only for the maintenance staff but for the entire community.

The white goods and electronics dumpsters are more accessible to residents. We are now able to accept branches and leaves all year long besides our regular collections.

We have completed the construction of the salt bay so we are now totally out of the other facility and the other departments' way. We can load salt and store all of our plow trucks at one place.

With the approval of the Board we were able to purchase two new F250 work trucks with plows and a F350 4x4 dump truck with plow and salter; which is taking the place of the dump truck

that was given to the Golf Maintenance and Lakes Departments. It can also plow and salt the roads when needed. We purchased a mini leaf vac that will aid the larger ones and will be able to do the cul-de-sacs much easier. We added a new zero turn lawn mower to our mowing fleet as well.

So thank you again for making my life much easier this year. Looking at the past year's accomplishments, of course we had our usual leaf and branch collections, helped Bruce and Jill Nix put together their wonderful Christmas spectacular light show on at the "Seasons Lakehouse" lawn. If you haven't seen it please come out this year and watch. They put a lot of their time to make the holidays more enjoyable for the residents and guests.

Last December, we were hit with two large snowstorms on consecutive weekends. The plows were working overtime those two weeks. After December 16,

we didn't have snow to plow for 2 months.

January started the remodeling of the restaurant formerly known as the Clubhouse. The work started in the kitchen with a backed-up sink that led into tearing up the floor and replacing old pipes which of course went under the cabinets. Cabinets were replaced. The kitchen was completed, just in time to give the contractors help remodeling the lounge and restaurant area. That was a big undertaking as you can see when you walk into the new "Seasons Lakehouse".

We finally finished in March.

This year we installed new playground equipment at Golf View Park, set up and took down tents for the Thursday night concerts, and cleaned up the next day. We set up for the 4th of July and of course cleaned up afterwards.

We prepared the area for the paving of a new parking lot at the 19th Hole and put in a new access road at the Westhaven boat docks. We installed new wind screens at the Garry Weiss Pavilion. We striped the golf cart parking lot, the new parking lot under the water tower and about six

miles of roadways.

Each week during spring, summer, and fall we cut and trim approximately 250 acres of land and empty tons of garbage. I could go on and on with all the little projects we did like putting in new lights, poles, fire pit and walk way on the patio, but I won't. I hope you can see what we have done as you drive around the community.

We hope all of you have a happy and safe holiday season and we will see you around the community.

Permits required for building, installing structures

If you are planning on building or installing any above ground structure on your property you must obtain a permit from the POA office. If you have any questions about having a structure built or installed on your property please call the POA office at 219-988-2581.

As stated under 3.1.2. in the Restrictive Covenants: No dwelling house, storage shed, tennis court, dog pen or run, outbuilding, swimming pool, or other above ground structure shall be

constructed, placed, or altered on any numbered lot in the Subdivision nor shall any boat lift, pier, float, or similar structure be placed entirely or partly within any lake in the Subdivision, unless plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location thereof shall have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, not less than two members of the Building Control Committee for the Association.



Photograph courtesy of Stephen Martin Photography

Winfield Elementary announces first 'Student of the Month' group for 2017-18 school year

Winfield Elementary School recently recognized its September Student of the Month. The month's theme was 'Caring: You feel and show concern for others'. Congratulations to Tinley Morris, Ainsley Kopack, Lia Paramantgis, Colin Johnsen, Natalia Becvarovski, Gretchen Gruett, Alexandra Vogal, Ashley Olmos, Daniel Sotiroski, Jayden Salinas, Carrington Washington, Tatum Olsen, Gavin Areola, Connor Peak, Reece Luri, Troy Atkinson, Alicia Vasquez, Orion Mohammed, Leonel Portes, Madison Wold, Weston Stephens, Bobby Banovich, Sophia Himden, Morgan Siazzyk, Garrett Neal, Reece Gully, and Jacob Viachos.

This Month in History

NOVEMBER, 1990 – *The Seasonal* produced twenty-eight pages of reporting. The month was both notable and busy for the Board of Directors, Community Manager Steve Furlong, and POA staff!

“New Pool Construction Underway,” “Final costs on Pro-Shop in ”and “New Board Members Take Seats” at the 22nd annual meeting graced front page headlines. The Board of Directors undertook a proposed \$625,000 project by Langston Construction Company of tearing out the original pool installed by Boise Cascade developers and building a new T-shaped pool.

The Board received the final figure of \$559,000 for the new **Golf Club Pro-Shop** which opened five months prior. Volunteers worked diligently on revising our **Restrictive**

Covenants. A Shoreline Protection Program was announced and a **new baseball and soccer field** was in the works! The ballparks in Porter County would be re-named and dedicated “**Cleveland Park,**” in honor of **Maintenance Superintendent Harold Cleveland** of over twenty years.

The **Lions** installed playground equipment at **Lions Park**. A nearly full-page spread covered a **LOFS Fire Department Training Session**. Long-time residents will recall the old farmhouse on the northwest corner of 109th and Randolph. LOFS Fire Chief Don Blume and LOFS firefighters with area fire departments from Hebron, Lake Eliza, and Ainsworth/Deep River underwent training exercises then burned down the old house on the Hooseline property.



Oct. 14, house burn trainees Joe Wiacek and Jerry KucharSKI man a fire hose, ready to douse the fire in the old farm house, which was on the corner of 109th and Randolph.



LOFS Fireman Joe McBride, a trainee at the house burn, holds a charged fire hose, as the old farm house starts to rapidly burn. The house was burned for training Oct. 14.

“The house burn had been carefully planned on the cool but sunny morning,” was reported including pictures of trainees Joe Wiacek, Jerry

Kuchar, and Joe McBride. The Fire Department’s Annual Report to the community stated having answered 159 calls to date. It

should be noted for 2017 the LOFS Fire Department has answered 1,190 calls, 426 of those were within LOFS, reflecting the growth of our

community as well as our surrounding communities.

Seasons Lakehouse

Valerie Gernenz, *Seasons Lakehouse Manager*

This year was all about change starting with renaming the newly renovated, restaurant, Seasons Lakehouse. Through much deliberation with the help of

Rick Cleveland, the Board of Directors, and the Food & Beverage Committee, we as a team thought it would be better to change the concept of the type of restaurant we want to become based on demographics of the area and

current trends.

Our goal was to bring down our price points and offer more pub-style items while including more craft brews, extensive whiskey and scotch selections, and carefully selected choices of wine.

Throughout the years I have been listening to our residents and patrons and the popular disappointment I heard was that the restaur-

ant lacked warmth and atmosphere, therefore this was affecting the overall guest experience. During the renovation we focused on changing the atmosphere and also added a new sound system throughout the restaurant and ballroom. I was excited to be the project manager and make the new Seasons Lakehouse something for all of us to be proud of.

The final project this year

was adding some character and ambiance to the patio. We added nautical rope and stanchions around the perimeter of the patio. Lights were installed on top of the three-tiered posts and a beautiful fire pit was placed in the center of the patio dining area. There are many to thank for their tireless efforts which include Rick Cleveland, the Board of Directors, Roy and his team, Tony Tsikouris,

Nathan Szymczak, and Kurt Whitehead for the amazing masonry work.

We considered these changes to be like opening a new restaurant and are finding ourselves getting closer to our financial goals through trial and error. The first year of a new business is finding our structure and realizing what our average daily revenue is going to be through-

(See *Lakehouse* on Pg. 12)

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Golf Maintenance

By Doug Weiss, Golf Maintenance Superintendent

The 2017 golf season has been one of the driest seasons I can remember. The lack of rain made it easier to move forward on our project list.

This spring we started with the waterfall. A new liner and skimmer boxes have been installed replacing the existing ones that have been in place for twelve years. I am happy to report that it does not leak!

Next was the new landscaping on the number two men's tee. The existing evergreens had to be removed and new trees, flowers, and hardscape was installed in its place. This made a huge visual impact to the entire area. Thanks to the House and Garden club for the monetary donation along with the MGA who also donated money for the walk way on the number one tee. A new hole placement sign has been

installed on the number one tee replacing the number on a tree method we used prior.

On to hole number five; trees have been planted in the rough on the right side in an attempt to help stop balls from hitting the homes on the right. The fairway and the tee has been angled to the left in an attempt to have golfers aim further left off the tee shot. A "no mow" area has been placed on the left and right side of the fairway. The areas have been killed off and seeded with plants that are specific for the area. The plants will help filter the water going into Lake Holiday. The engineering study has shown that the area has the second most amount

of water going into the lake. Simply put, the better quality of water going in the lake the better quality of water for the golf course. This will be a three-year project for it to reach full maturity.

Also, several hundred plants were planted in the retention pond and ditches leading into the pond on hole number six. The ditches on six and twelve have been cleaned out and are now flowing properly. There is no standing water on the left side of the cart path by the twelfth tee. This is a continuation of the cleaning out all of the ditches on the golf course. There are a few more to go and they should be completed next year.

The LOFS sign in the rocks on hole number 10 green banks has had a few ornamental trees and bushes planted around it to complete the project and it looks great. The WGA did a great job of raising funds for the entire project. The final large projects are the new white tee on number 10 and enlarge the drop area tee on number 16. Both of these tees will be ready for the 2018 golf season.

The summer of 2016 LOFS started a mosquito control program. We rented a ULV sprayer in August to see the impact it would have on the mosquitoes and the community. The results were obvious that we had to

take the program further and purchase our own sprayer. I along with Ryan Grady executed the plan and the results were extraordinary. I had several people tell me in person or through e-mail how happy they were not to be bitten up all summer long and able to enjoy their yards again. I am proud of what we accomplished this year with our program and hope to move on to the next step during the summer of 2018.

Thank you to my staff, the PO. Board, MGA, WGA, and the golfers for their continued support. Once again Kim and Timburley did an amazing job with the flowers all over the community and golf course.

Golf Services

By Paul Boris, Director of Golf

I'd like to begin by thank my staff during a particularly demanding season and for their commitments to the golf services department goals this year. With my long-time assistant professional Doug Franz breaking the news that he would be making a career change in late spring and stepping down from his role as assistant, this was a particularly difficult time of the year to find a proper replacement. After making attempts to restructure and hire mid-swing in the season, I elected to not rush a decision out of desperation and felt comfortable enough to trust that my staff could handle the extra burden until the proper time to find and hire a replacement.

While in transition and training for his new career, Doug continued to provide assistance to the department part-time on weekends and during key events until we could search for a proper replacement and restructure roles within the department, which we have been able to finally wrap up as of the end

of September. This situation defines the very essence of why I love working for this community and I will forever value Doug's friendship and thank the staff members that I have had working on my team both past and present over my years as Director of Golf.

The revenue potentials for the Golf Services Department always relies heavily on the cooperation of weather and golf course conditions to successfully produce positive numbers year in and year out. The budget numbers projected for each year in Golf Services consider the weather patterns and scheduled events for the following years budget based on the previous 3-to-5 years of history. This year, unlike recent years on the record, has been a terrific year in both weather and similarly playing conditions nearly the entire year and that has reflected on the revenue streams for the year thus far.

By the numbers, green fee revenue from group outings and small private events has grown significantly by 278 total rounds for an in-

crease of \$9,750 this season. Overall green fee revenue for the community is up 7.9% for the year and is forecast to maintain close to that percentage by years end based on recent weather patterns. Daily round counts for the season are forecast to close in at around 21,000 rounds played overall, which is close to our 3-year average. Paid rounds of golf through daily green fees are forecast to finish on par with our 3-year averages as well.

Finally, membership numbers are healthy this year and have increased by a total of 12 members for a total of 282 adult members. Overall, we have seen membership numbers rebound from 2016 and expect to see further growth as a handful of community golfers had not joined for reasons out of theirs or anyone's control regarding health and other temporary reasons. We are currently projecting to surpass budgeted revenues for golf services for the fiscal year based on current analysis of the golf seasons forecast.

It pleases me to be able to finally announce that Tyler Nicol will be returning to take over a newly focused role as our new Assistant Golf Professional. His role, however, will be different than any previous Assistant Golf Professional at our

club's history and will be focused on working to develop and specifically advance the services of golf instruction, simulator technology, swing training, golf clinics, video instruction and developmental leagues for adults as well as juniors as we team up to bring a whole new level of offerings to the community and golfers in the local area.

With the experience he brings back with him from The Golf Academy at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, Indiana, including an extensive background in competitive golf that continues to grow, an obsession for the game and a love for teaching and developing golfers there is no doubt in my mind that Tyler will help bring a strong performance to the newly planned services for this community now and in the future as he develops in his role.

In the Golf Merchandise area of the Golf Department, this year will beat out Gross Projected Revenue by a healthy margin this season. The vendors that we have stocked in the apparel sector continue to sell strong and show that both the fit and styles are well suited for the market within the community for apparel. Once again, we continue to be aggressive on finding style line-ups and color ways with vendors that

offer the best fit and quality at reasonable pricing and will continue to work on stocking procedures that offer variety without overlap that coincides with the season.

Our formula has been tweaked every year based on the previous year's trial and error, bringing in smaller segments of color stories more frequently throughout the year has yielded opportunities and better variety for customers to define their styles from their counterparts without showing up at the course seeing everyone wearing the same items.

The only unavoidable side effect to the success of our stocking plan for apparel is that the golf shop will more frequently sell out of certain styles and sizes from the limited offerings being stocked and restocking isn't generally an option for most unique style lines. We will continue to evaluate whether this is good or is limiting sales but currently, the feedback is mostly positive and showing is proving good results.

In the equipment sector of the golf shop, we have tested running both a spring and a late summer demonstration day this season for equipment with positive results on sales. This will be something that will see more frequent use for future years, as well as private scheduled fitting

days for focused segments of players golf bags at regular monthly intervals throughout the future golf seasons.

On a final note, a special thanks to the outgoing Women's Golf Association President, Carol Thorsen, for her six years of service as well as the rest of the WGA Board. In addition, thank you to MGA President Jim Ford and the Men's Golf Association Board members for their support to the golf course and other programs that greatly benefit the community and especially the youth scholarship programs we've work to establish over the years. I look forward to working closely with all incoming board members for both boards shortly as we begin working on plans for the upcoming 2018 golf season events calendar during this off-season.

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 2018 season as we plan to introduce new features and entertainment.

(Lakehouse from Pg. 11)

out the year. We ask for the support and patience of our residents and patrons, and, as always, we are available for your input and suggestions.

The Patio business throughout the week far surpassed past summer months, but specifically Sundays on the patio created a lot of buzz and had many people walking through the door to check out some great acoustic entertainment.

We continue to strive to improve the experience for our guests every day. We work closely with our vendors and ask for their help to train our employees. We must give them every opportunity to succeed with as much training and information as possible. We have had

a consultant and restaurant operation instructor from US Foods give us powerful tools and information to run our establishment to the best of our ability. We included Southern Wine and Spirits with training on our wine menu and the differences between them.

This was followed up by the same instruction about beer with the help of an individual from Indiana Beverage.

We are beginning our venture in outside advertising and getting the word out that we are open to the public. We are working with Yelp to clean up the accounts for better communication of our address, phone number, website information, and we

will have a detailed video of our services of what the Seasons Lakehouse has to offer. Many other opportunities are being researched in advertising to find out where our money is best spent.

From this point on I know we are only going to get better and every menu change will prove it. Our Fall-Winter menu will be out soon and will provide some new options while keeping some of the popular items that are strong sellers.

Weather during our Thursday night concerts was somewhat stable and out of 11 concerts we brought in about \$25,000 worth of revenue just from the outside concessions alone. This is slightly above last year.

I look forward to working with the Board of Directors this coming budget year on discussing future projects and possible renovations for the ballroom. I think there is room for improvement for some new lighting, painting, and bringing some of the stone to tie in with the restaurant.

On a final note please keep reading the Seasonal, checking social media, and signage at the gates for any and all advertisement about exciting events that will be offered here at the Seasons Lakehouse this winter.



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Women's Golf Association

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

Our organization lost a few members for the 2017 season with fifty-three current paid members. The Thursday morning league consisted of twenty-seven 18 holers and thirteen 9 holers with the remaining thirteen members only participating in WGA sponsored weekend events.

The WGA, again, hosted

various events during the past golfing season for its members, including our Kickoff Breakfast, 2 Best Ball of 4, Memorial Cup, League Championships, Steeplechase and the 100 Yard Scramble. 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 ladies par-

ticipating in the day's activities and Field Day ended our calendar year outing with many of our former members in attendance. Participants dressed for dinner at our Seasons Lakehouse and wore masks as this year's theme was "Masquerade".

The 2017 WGA golf season ended on Saturday, October 7, with our awards pizza luncheon and the election of our 2018 executive board. Elected officers are:

- President - Liz Sturgeon
- 1st Vice President - Jeana Karas
- 2nd Vice President (18 holes) - Phyllis Wayco
- 2nd Vice President (9 holes) - Lori DuPratt
- Secretary - Phyllis Greenya
- Treasurer - Kim Brownlee
- Rules Director - Mitzi Levander
- Constitution Director - Bev

Nowicki

- Handicap Director - Sandi Nicol

Involvement in community events is an important goal of the WGA and is achieved by lending our support to the various activities within our boundaries. WGA members volunteer to staff the registration table for the Lion's Club Annual Golf Outing, and its members setup a refreshment concession for the Northwest Indiana Junior Golf Association tour stop here on July 24th for the 72 participating junior golfers and their families. Also the WGA hosted a couple of fundraising events during the season including the summer concert parking concession on August 10th which netted the WGA \$535.00 and the Garage Sale, held in conjunction with the Town of

Winfield's sale, that profited our organization \$371.60.

The WGA, in conjunction with the Ginny Wilhelm Foundation, completed the 30' x 50' LOFS flower bed on Hole #10 and funded an additional \$700 for floral beautification. Also, the WGA was endowed \$1,000 from the Janet Allen Legacy Foundation to fund a scholarship to one of our own that had participated in the LOFS Junior Golf Program. This year's scholarship essay winner was Meaghan Spalla who is attending Purdue University Northwest studying Biology.

For an organization with such a small membership, the WGA certainly has accomplished much this year. Thank you to the Event Chairmen and the Committees for an exciting season.

The WGA officers and members wish to express our thanks to Paul Boris, Director of Golf, Doug Weiss, Golf Maintenance Superintendent, Valerie Gernetz, Food and Beverage Manager for their efforts this past year during our events and league play. Additional thanks are offered to Rick Cleveland, POA Manager and his staff for their assistance with the concert parking concession and to Roy Green and his department for their help with the Garage Sale. Without the ongoing support the WGA receives on a regular basis from all the LOFS Departments during events and projects, we would not be able to reach the goals of contributing to the community.

New 2018 WGA officers elected and presentation of league awards

By Marge Wilke, Corresponding Secretary

On Saturday, October 7, WGA members gathered for their Annual Pizza Party. During that time, the new 2018 Officers were elected including President, Liz Sturgeon; 1st Vice President, Jeana Karas; 2nd Vice President 18 Holes, Phyllis Wayco; 2nd Vice President 9 Holes, Lori DuPratt; Secretary, Peggy Greenya; Treasurer, Kim Brownlee; Rules Director, Mitzi Levander; Constitution Director, Bev Nowicki; and Handicap Director, Sandi Nicol. The outgoing President and Officers were thanked for their ongoing support of the WGA.

Awards for the month of September were presented to the 18 Hole League members by Phyllis Wayco indicating the game on September 7 was Odd Holes Minus 1/2 Handicap and 1st place was won by Jeana Karas, 2nd place Kathy Bogdan and 3rd place Nancy Klavas. Chip-ins were recorded by Nadean Hartman on Hole #3, Nancy Klavas on Hole #13 and Sally Lugo on Hole #16.

On September 14 the WGA celebrated Field Day, during which Chip-ins were recorded by Jodi Hall on Holes #6 and #7 by Sandi Nicol on Hole #14. Kim Brownlee had a birdie on Hole #14.

On September 21 the game was Even Steven with 1st place won by Sandi Nicol, 2nd place Kim Brownlee, 3rd

place Sally Lugo. There were chip-ins recorded by Phyllis Wayco on Holes #1 and #9 and Joni Buccini had a Chip-in on Hole #11. Birdies were recorded by Kim Brownlee on Hole #10 and Joni Buccini on Hole #11.

On September 28 the game was Most of the Same Number with Diane Greaney taking 1st place, Carol Larson 2nd place and Nadean Hartman 3rd place and a Birdie was recorded by Diane Greaney on Hole #3. The September Putter of the Month was Nadean Hartman.

Lori DuPratt 2nd Vice President 9 Holes presented the September 9 hole league awards including September 7 with a No Putt Tourney. The A Flight winner was Lori DuPratt and B Flight winner was Peggy Greenya.

On September 14 the game was Secret Hole and the A Flight winner was Lori DuPratt and B Flight winner Peggy Greenya. A Par as recorded by Lori DuPratt on Hole #8.

For September 21 the game was Tee to Green with Bev Nowicki winning the A Flight and Linda Pasternak winning the B flight. The September 28th game was Prophecy and the 1st place winner was Lori DuPratt and 2nd place winner was Bev Nowicki.

Phyllis Wayco presented the Annual League Awards: Ringers the 9 Hole League winners were Linda Pasternak and Lori DuPratt; 18 Hole League Ringer winners were Phyllis Wayco, Mitzi Levander and Eva Simic. For Match Play and

18 Hole League Individual Winner was Linda Pasternak and 18 Hole League Partners winners were Eva Simic and Debbie Wegman. For 18 Hole League Championship: Championship Flight, Sandi Nicol; A Flight, Joni Buccini; B Flight, Jeana Karas; and C Flight, Eva Simic. Nine Hole League Championship - A Flight, Lori DuPratt; B Flight, Marge Wilke and C Flight, Peggy Greenya. The Steeplechase Winner was Debbie Gulley.

The 18 Hole Chipper of the Year was Jodi Hall; Chipper of the Year 9 Hole League was split between Linda Pasternak and Barb

Wood. Putter of the Year 18 Hole was Phyllis Wayco; Putter of the Year 9 Hole League was Barb Wood. The Most Improved 9 Hole Player was Lori DuPratt, The Most Improved 18 Hole League Player was Rachel Mastey and the Grace Foley Award was presented to Nicole Mochel.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers and to the members of the WGA for a most successful year filled with building friendships, mixed with fun during the golf season. See you next year for more enjoyable days on the golf course.

Men's Golf Association

By Jim Ford, MGA President

On behalf of the LOFS Men's Golf Association, we would like to thank the LOFS POA Board, the Community Manager, the LOFS POA Employees, the Golf Course Director and his staff and the entire community for supporting the Men's Golf Association this year.

The MGA has added in-

put and guidance to many projects throughout this year, including but not limited to, the new tee on #5, working with POA board members, Superintendent, WGA board, and the Golf Director.

MGA has spent the money we generated this year on many items including golf course improvements, beautification projects on the course, signage on the

course, and doubling the amount we give away yearly for our youths in our college scholarship donations.

These projects YTD total \$9,745.70. Also, final numbers for 2016 spent totaled \$13,380.00. Over the two years many fundraising events were held, including the parking for concert night that the POA was so generous to let us have, totaled \$19,108.00.

The MGA will continue to support the community, not only through golf, but in many other ways. We look forward to working with the new POA Board, and we thank the previous board for

its support of the MGA. Our fundraising has allowed the MGA over many years, to give back to the community and we look forward to continuing this great tradition.

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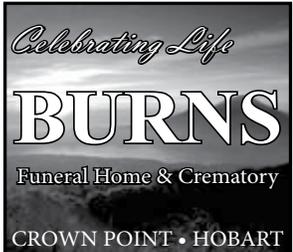
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Lakes Department

By Ryan Grady, Lakes Director

The Lakes Department set and reached many of our goals this year. We started the year by repairing and painting all the public access and fishing docks around

the community. I would like to thank the LEA for their generous donation this year, which allowed us to add two new public fishing docks with benches, one is located on Big Bass Lake and one is located on Lake Holiday. We

By Mike Talley, MS4 Coordinator

The primary function of an MS4 Department is to prevent to the best of its ability, stormwater from carrying pollutants of all kinds into our lakes and waterways.

We accomplish this task by: First using tools like our Lakes & MS4 Website, our Facebook Page, Monthly Articles in the Seasonal, face to face discussions, and help from the LEA we reach out to our residents. Our hope is to better educate them on how around the house activities and use of in home chemicals have a drastic ef-

fect on our environment.

Through inhouse sample and testing of our infalls and lake waters, along with our partnerships with The Lake County Health Department and Indiana Universities Clean Lakes Program we are better able track where and what the pollutants are entering our lakes. This knowledge helps us develop green infrastructure projects to better handle the incoming pollution.

During the last 12 months, the MS4 Department has done regular weekly erosion control inspections at 24 new construction and home re-

also built two bridges that are located at the Westhaven rental docks.

The Lake Holiday boat ramp project was completed; including the new floating dock and I have heard nothing but good feedback from residents that use it.

The overflow structure on Trouthaven was replaced.

The Big Bass Lake CR 725 Inlet Floodplain project has been completed. The Lakes Department just

recently put the finishing touches on the project by installing the erosion control blanket and seeded the area with native vegetation. We also relocated, extended, and replaced several aeration units on Big Bass Lake to deeper areas of the lake. This should reduce introduction of phosphorus into the water column from the nutrient rich sediments, which in return will help with the blue/green algae blooms in

the future.

Lake Patrol did an outstanding job this year assisting boaters and helping with all the Lakes projects.

In June we did our annual goose round up and relocate. We rounded up 64 geese from Big Bass Lake and relocated them to Willow Slough Fish and Wildlife Area, where they were released safely.

Next year some of our goals will be adding more

aeration units to Big Bass Lake and purchasing a pesticide boat to do all of the chemical applications on the lakes.

I would like to end by thanking Rick Cleveland for all of his help throughout the year and the board of directors for giving us the funds to go in the right direction with these projects. I look forward to enhancing all of our lakes throughout the community.

By Mike Talley, MS4 Department

Hints on Lawn Care – Fertilizing WHEN

• Fertilize in September and again in late fall. If you fertilize at no other time, make sure to fertilize your lawn in September and late fall. Fertilize again in mid-to late May. *Purdue University Extension*

• If you only fertilize once a year, the best time to do it is around Labor Day. For a moderate quality lawn, apply fertilizer the beginning of May and September. High quality lawns should be fertilized the beginning of May

and September and the end of October. Very high quality lawns that are watered all summer may also be fertilized around Father's Day.

University of Illinois HOW MUCH

• Don't over-fertilize your lawn with too much of a good thing. 4 balanced fertilizer applications a year is plenty: spring, summer, early fall and after the first frost for cool season grasses. If you're in drought conditions, skip the summer application. Never skip the fall application. It's important to use lawn products by following label instructions. Get the best results by fol-

lowing the directions. Over application will not improve performance. Fertilizers are processed through their interaction with tiny microbes before they can be used. Over-applying fertilizers can create unfavorable conditions for those microbes, even killing them. When that happens, the soil becomes sterile and the grass won't grow. *American Lawns.com*

• All plants need nutrients to grow and thrive. However, it's not always necessary to fertilize them. Your lawn obtains the nutrients it needs from soil minerals, organic matter, fertilizer, and even

found that all departments needed updating on their Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) to the new OSHA required Safety Data Sheets (SDS). This required doing an inventory of all chemicals on hand and updating to the new SDS sheets. Containment boxes and racks were replaced for all departments.

A cloud based data storage system was developed utilizing Adobe's Document Cloud. Each department's SDS sheets were placed on this cloud database to be viewed by emergency personnel if needed.

Other items being maintained on Adobe's Document Cloud include: All MS4 Construction Site Inspections, all lake testing results, and current MS4 required documents. All items are kept for historical use and can be viewed by POA Management possessing the databases web address.

Plans for later this year and into 2018 for the MS4 Department

• Maintain and build on all current practices.

• Prepare for IDEM's MS4 MCM 4 & 5 Audit, which should be scheduled for later this year.

• Every bag of fertilizer is labeled with three numbers. Those numbers represent the percentages (by weight) of three key nutrients: nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium. For example, a fertilizer bag labeled 22-3-5 contains 22 percent nitrogen, 3 percent phosphorus, and 5 percent potassium. *Purdue University Extension*

• Chicago area soils are naturally high in potassium and phosphorus, and most lawns don't require more. This nitrogen application will help lawns retain green color longer in winter and color up faster in early spring. *Chicago botanic Garden*

Lakes of the Four Seasons policy regarding phosphorus fertilizers

General Regulations

• **Fertilizer Content: No commercial applicator may apply any manufactured fertilizer, liquid or granular, which contains any amount of phosphorus or other compound containing phosphorus, such as phosphate except as provided herein under Exemptions to Phosphorus Requirement or Administrative Relief. Read the policy in its entirety at www.lofs.org/poa/poa-policies.**

Obituary ~

Melvin "Mel" D. Kemp

Melvin "Mel" D. Kemp, age 82, of LOFS/Crown Point, passed away October 1, 2017. He was born in Garden City, Kansas on August 31, 1935 to the late Melvin and Gladys (nee Johnson) Kemp. He is survived by his loving wife, of 41 years, Nancy (nee Zeiss) Kemp. He was previously married to the late Jean (nee Stone) Kemp and the couple adopted three children during their marriage; Christopher Kemp, Anne (Ahmed) Stowers, Martha (Keith) Jones. Mel is also survived by his sister, Joan Boyland; step children, Lloyd (Dee) Neukranz, Laura Davis, Thomas (Nancy) Neukranz; and 11 grandchildren. He attended public school in Garden City and graduated from Washburn University of Topeka in 1957 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. He was licensed as a Certified

Public Accountant in 1960 by the state of Colorado. He was employed for many years as a controller and/or Financial Vice President for both private and publicly held corporations. In 1960 he was hired as an Internal Auditor by Gates Rubber Company in Denver. He left Gates in 1969 having served as the Manager of Accounting for Domestic Rubber Manufacturing Operations in Denver. During the 1970's he was the Financial Vice President of Carpetland USA which was headquartered in Munster, Indiana. It was in April of 1976 that he met his wife Nancy, who was an Executive Secretary at Carpetland USA. In 1980 he founded Mel Kemp & Associates, which offered professional business consulting services with a specialization in the retail and contract/commercial floor covering



industry. He enjoyed assisting independent, locally owned floor covering enterprises succeed by establishing sound operating policies and financial controls. In 1995 he became the Executive Director of Starnet Commercial Flooring, Inc., a purchasing cooperative owned by independent commercial flooring contractors located throughout the United States. He left employment of Starnet in 2001, but continued to serve the Board of Directors in a consulting capacity for many years. His

favorite employer was Meals on Wheels of NWI where he was employed in February of 2010 as a part-time van driver. He had previously volunteered, starting in 2001, to deliver meals to clients of Meals on Wheels within Lakes of the Four Seasons and Winfield. He served two terms as President of the Winfield/LOFS Chamber of Commerce. Mel, and his wife Nancy benefited greatly by being members of Bethel Church in Crown Point. Memorial contributions may be made in Mel's honor, to Bethel Church, 10202 Broadway, Crown Point, IN 46307. A memorial service for Mel was held on Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 10:00 am at Bethel Church, 10202 Broadway, Crown Point, IN 46307. Arrangements have been entrusted to Rees Funeral Home, Winfield Chapel. For more information, please call 219-661-2600. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.reesfuneralhomes.com.

United Way of Porter County 'FAFSA Friday' program underway through April

United Way of Porter County has partnered with three community partners to provide free FAFSA filing services.

Known as FAFSA Fridays, the program offers services at two Porter County locations October through April on the second Friday of each month.

The program is available thanks to a partnership with Valparaiso University, Neighbors' Educational Opportunities, and Indiana Tech.

"As I conversed with parents sending their children off to college, we saw a need to assist them in getting the financial support they needed to do so," said Kim Olesker, president & CEO of United Way of Porter County. "We are grateful to our partners for joining us in this effort."

This opportunity is open



to all seeking assistance to file their college financial aid paperwork. Participation is by appointment only. Participants should bring a hard copy of their 2015 income tax information, including W2, and the student's social security number with them to the appointment.

Appointments are approximately 30 minutes long and available from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Program locations are United Way of Porter County in Valparaiso and Neighbors' Educational Opportunities in Portage. For more information about FAFSA Fridays and to make an appointment, visit www.UnitedWayPC.org/FAFSA.

Keenagers

The Keen-Agers will have their November meeting on the 16th at the Seasons Lakehouse. They will celebrate Thanksgiving with the bar opening at noon and a delicious luncheon being served

By Renate Sahulcik, Club President

The Keen-Agers is a social club for the 50 and older crowd. In addition to their monthly meetings at the Seasons Lakehouse they enjoy day trips such as a boat ride on the The Spirit of Chicago, gambling at the Four Winds casino in Michigan, plus their every September Diamond Tour

at 1 p.m. Entertainment is scheduled for 2; after a short meeting adjournment will be around 3 p.m.

The Club is open to anyone 50 and older, regardless of residency. In addition to

their third Thursday of the month meetings, except for January, they go on a day trip to Chicago, casino outings in Michigan, plus a September bus vacation.

This year they just returned from a fabulous time in Maine which included stopovers in New York; great sights and excursions was enjoyed by the 30 travelers. Talk of Nashville for next year, so stay tuned!

Yearly membership fee is \$25, the monthly luncheon cost is \$15, which includes a tip. With 12 successful fund raisers to their credit, the latest was their awesome, annual August auction, the best in money and merchandise to date! These fund raisers help the club finance their trips and activities. 2018 money-maker plans are in the works.

Please contact Renate a 219-689-3408 or e-mail her

at willrenate@yahoo.com for info or to make a future reservation. The Seasonal reports all the club's latest info and updates; check their ad out in the LOFS 2017-18 phone directory, you can visit their websites at www.lofsc.org and www.Will-Powers.com under services and clubs.

Thanks to all the Members, Valerie Gemenz and the Seasons Lakehouse staff for the fabulous service pro-

vided, in keeping the Keen-Agers KOOL!

- President: Renate Sahulcik
- Vice-President: Travel Advisor, Entertainment Organizer: Linda Koblack
- Treasurer: Menu Selector: Pete Maloy
- Secretary: Vileda Maloy
- Director of Callers: Bernadette Bailey
- Director of Casino: Sue Kalinowski

bus vacation, this year it was Maine! 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 12 successful fund raisers to their credit, some being a sexy calendar and a delicious cookbook; the proceeds are used to finance their trips and

activities.

Yearly membership dues are \$25 and the monthly luncheon cost is \$15, which includes a tip. The Seasonal reports their latest info and updates. Their ad is in the LOFS 2017-18 phone directory. Their websites can be visited at www.lofsc.org and Will-Powers.com under services and clubs.

Their Board consists of

President Renate Sahulcik, Vice-President Linda Koblack, Treasurer Pete Maloy, and Secretary Vileda Maloy. Additional help is done by Pete Maloy for the menu selections, Linda Koblack as the travel advisor and the entertainment organizer, Bernadette Bailey who handles all the calls, and Sue Kalinowski is in charge of the casino trips. All the

members contribute to the Club's popularity and the success of their awesome annual August auction; which this year proved to be the best in money and merchandise.

The Keen-Ager club is 40 plus years young and 100 plus members strong and growing. For the first time in history the club has had to put new members on a wait-

ing list. Please call Renate at 219-689-3408 or email her at willrenate@yahoo.com contact info is always advertised to get info or to make a future reservation.

Thanks to the POA for the use of the Seasons Lakehouse on the third Thursdays of the month, except January and the great staff that serves them, under the management of Valerie Gemenz.

Obituary ~ Stephania H. Hamernik (nee Sztaba)

Stephania H. Hamernik (nee Sztaba), age 98, of Crown Point, IN, passed away on Friday, September 29, 2017. Stephanina is survived by her son: Richard Hamernik; daughter-in-law: Edyth Hamernik; 3 grandchildren: Stephanie (Adam) Lintner, Adam (Nancy) Hamernik, and Chrissy (Aaron) Evec; and 6 great-grandchildren: Addison and Annabelle Lintner, Mitchell, Charles, and Lucy Kate Evec, and AJ Hamernik. She was preceded in death by her husband: Jozef; son: Mitchell Hamernik; and sister: Mechallina Kis. Stephanina was a member of St. Joseph the Worker Church and Holy Family. She worked for Perfect Plus Hosiery, Gary Bakery, and retired from Anderson Company. Stephanina was an excellent cook and loved to cook for her family and was also an



avid seamstress and enjoyed gardening. Friends visited with the family on Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 330 E. 45th Ave., Gary, IN 46409 from 9:00 AM until the time of the Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 AM with Fr. Stephen Loncar officiating. Interment to follow at Calvary Cemetery in Portage, IN. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Geisen Funeral, Cremation & Reception Centre in Crown Point, IN. View and/or sign guestbook at www.GeisenFuneralHome.com. 219-663-2500.

Obituary ~ Alice M. McKinley

Alice M. McKinley entered her eternal home on October 6, 2017 after a brief illness. She was born in Gary, IN on January 30, 1922, the daughter of John and Anna Novotny. A graduate of Lew Wallace High School. Alice married Daniel McKinley in 1944. When Dan returned from World War II, they settled in the Glen Park area of Gary and later moved to Merrillville, IN. Their marriage was blessed with a daughter, Kyle, who survives. Throughout her life, Alice was active in many community organizations, including 43rd Avenue Presbyterian Church, Christ Presbyterian Church, Girl Scouts, PTA and the Merrillville Women's Club. Into her eighties, she played in a women's golf league at Scherwood Golf Course. She and Dan also enjoyed travel throughout the United States. After Dan's death

in 1998 and her own health issues, Alice moved to Indianapolis to be near her daughter and son-in-law and her beloved granddaughter Allison. Alice is survived by daughter Kyle Rosebrough, her husband Dennis and their daughter Allison. She was preceded in death by her husband Daniel and her brother Charles Novotny. A Memorial Service was held at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 9201 East 100N, Avon, IN on Thursday, October 12 at 4:00 p.m. There was also a graveside service at Calumet Park Cemetery in Merrillville, IN on Friday, October 13 at 10:00 a.m. The family requests that memorials be made to Shriner's Children Hospital of Chicago. www.burnsfuneral.com.

Obituary ~ Geraldine "Geri" Japchinski

Geraldine "Geri" Japchinski, age 93, of Winfield, formerly of Hegewisch, joined her husband on October 8, 2017. She is survived by her beloved sons-Leonard (Carolyn) Japchinski, Kenneth (Sheree) Japchinski; grandchildren-Daniel Japchinski, Andrea (Andy) Japchinski, Kendra (Aaron) Jessen, Colin Japchinski. Geri was preceded in death by her husband-Leonard Japchinski, father-Alex Zawacki, mother-Susan Ross, sister-Ruth Lesniewski, step-brother-Fred Zawacki. She retired after 39 years of working at CNA Insurance company in Chicago. She was an animal lover, a World Traveler

and Queen of Clubs (Crown Point AARP, Golden Times, Smiling Seniors, Friendship Circle.) Friends met with Geri's family on Wednesday, from 3-7 p.m. October 11, 2017 at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. Funeral service Thursday, October 12, 2017 began with prayers at 9:15 a.m. at the funeral home and proceeded to a 10 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 8303 Taft St., Merrillville, IN. Interment at Skyline Memorial Park Cemetery, 24800 S. Governors Hwy. Monee, IL at 2:30 pm. www.burnsfuneral.com

Obituary ~ Michael J. Plesha

Michael J. Plesha, age 70 of Crown Point (LOFS), passed away on Saturday, October 7, 2017. He is survived by his loving wife of 38 years-Diane (nee Coppinger); daughter-Nicole Plesha of LOFS; brother-Ron Plesha of Chesterton; mother-in-law-Clara Coppinger; brothers-in-law-Lou Coppinger, Don (Debbie) Coppinger; sister-in-law-Marie Turner; many nieces, nephews, and cousins including special cousin-Carol Odom; faithful canine companion-Hunter. He was preceded in death

by children-Naomi Plesha and Mikey Plesha; parents- Mike and Pearl Plesha; father in law-Harry Coppinger. Friends visited with Michael's family on Tuesday from 3-8 pm at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point. Private graveside service Wednesday at Calumet Park Cemetery with Deacon Brian Nosbusch, officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to St. Anthony Home or Holy Spirit St. Vincent DePaul. www.burnsfuneral.com.

POA - November 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
POA Office Hours Monday thru Friday 9 am - 4 pm			1 Lions 7 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse	2	3	4
5 Don't Forget To Turn Your Clocks Back	6	7	8 Lions 7 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse Budget Requests due at POA Office by Noon	9 Historical Society Meeting 4:30 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse With Guest Speaker	10	11 Comedy Night Hosted by The Fundraising Committee 9 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse
12	13	14 Fishing Club Meeting 7 pm Downstairs @ 19th Hole	15	16 Keen-Agers Noon @ Seasons Lakehouse	17	18
19	20	21 Photo Club Meeting 6:30 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse	22 Lions 7 pm @ Seasons Lakehouse POA Office Closes @ Noon	23 Happy Thanksgiving POA Office Closed for the Holiday	24 POA Office Closed for the Holiday	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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Fire Auxiliary announces coloring contest winners among local schoolchildren

As part of the recent Fire Prevention Week, the Lake of the Four Seasons Fire Department and Auxiliary ran their annual coloring contest for children in kindergarten through second grade.

The Auxiliary asks the teachers and secretaries of Winfield Elementary and Porter Lakes Elementary to pass out coloring pages, which are then collected and judged.

"The Auxiliary noted that it's not an easy task because so many talented young people take the time to show that they care," noted one member of the Auxiliary. "There were so many excellent entries this year that we had several ties. Each student has

their picture taken with their work of art and receive a free fire t-shirt and a free pancake breakfast for themselves and a parent."

The Auxiliary also provides the participating teachers and secretaries with a complimentary breakfast.



Josie Tuttle, first grade, Winfield Elementary



J.J. Dines, second grade, Porter Lakes Elementary



Jackson St. Germain, kindergarten, Winfield Elementary



Jillian Crawford, second grade, Winfield Elementary



Kaya Keeran, first grade, Porter Lakes Elementary



Caden DuBois, kindergarten, Porter Lakes Elementary



Ella Trapp, kindergarten, Winfield Elementary



Cameron Cason, first grade, Winfield Elementary



Ella Tuttle, second grade, Winfield Elementary

LOFS Fire Auxiliary thanks supporters, community for making events successful

LOFS Fire Auxiliary would like to thank their supporters for making their Crazy Bunco night a success. They had 88 players and excellent homemade food prepared by members. Additionally, they sold 150 gift baskets and gave out

prizes to the top ten scorers. The organization is especially grateful to their sponsors, namely Indiana Furniture Showcase (Gary Steinhilber); Cracker Barrel; LOFS Comedy Club - Fundraising Committee; Sam's Club; LOFS POA; A+ Hair Salon;

Strawberry Fields Pancake House; Baja's Restaurant; and Wendy VanDenburgh-Coldwell Banker Realty.

The Auxiliary will announce plans for 2018 sometime in late January. Also, they would like to remind the community that they have

changed the date for the annual 'Stop, Drop, & Donate' event to Saturday, December 9, for both Lake and Porter Counties. That event is when LOFS Fire drives their fire trucks through the area collecting food and monies for the food pantries.

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Fire Force

By Fire Chief Jeremy L. Campbell

During 2017, our partnership with the LOFS Property Owners Association was strengthened with a very generous donation of funding toward two purchases that the Fire Force would otherwise not have been able to accomplish.

As you may or may not know LOFS Fire / EMS has been dispatched entirely by the Porter County E911 Center in Valparaiso. In an effort to decrease our call times, we are in the process of transitioning to a dual dispatch system between Lake and Porter County.

The long and short of the switch, if your call for assistance originates in Porter

County, that agency will dispatch your call; conversely, if your call originates in Lake County, they will dispatch our department.

With this change, the Fire Force was in need of what we call Mobile Data Terminals or "MDTs". The POA Board of Directors approved the purchase of four such units (Microsoft Surface Pro 4 units and all related mounting hardware). The MDT's will be installed in both command trucks and both frontline ambulances to enhance received call information, mapping, reduction of radio traffic, etc.

With all local agencies moving to install these units and with our dispatch transition, it was required of us to begin the process of imple-

menting this technology.

In addition to that, the POA Board of Directors also approved the expenditure of \$7,500 toward the purchase of a new life-saving Lukas Brand automated CPR device. The Fire Force was successful in obtaining a matching style grant from the Crown Point Community Foundation, also in the amount of \$7,500 toward the purchase of this unit. It goes without saying, especially if you have ever performed CPR for an extended period of time, this unit will pay off in spades. In addition to that, the Lukas device is field proven to provide better and more complete CPR to an individual in sudden cardiac arrest, thus improving patient outcome.

- ALL LOFS CALLS - 426
- Lake County Side - 271
- Porter County Side - 155
- Total LOFS Fire Calls - 1190, or 35.7% total calls

LOFS boat storage available

The LOFS, POA has an outdoor storage area capable of storing 50 boats and/or boat trailers for LOFS property owners only. Please contact the POA office at 219-988-2581 for more information.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

SEASONS Lakehouse Thanksgiving Buffet
November 23, 2017

Reservations Only!
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Happy Thanksgiving

Call 219-988-2582
For more Information & Reservations

- * Roasted Turkey w/ Rosemary-Port Cranberry Sauce*
- * Hickory Smoked Ham w/ Honey Glaze*
- * Green Beans Parmesan with Bacon & Tomatoes*
- * Sweet Potatoes w/ Bananas & Rum Soaked Raisins*
- * Buttermilk-Bourbon Smashed Potatoes & Gravy*
- * Roasted Acorn Squash w/ Vanilla Maple Drizzle*
- * Mushroom & Sage Stuffing*
- * Fresh Fruit Arrangement*
- * Romaine & Radicchio Salad with Pears, Dried Cherries & Pine Nuts*
- * Fusilli Pasta Salad with Apples, Broccoli & Bleu Cheese*
- * Salmon with Brown Sugar & Lemon Pepper*
- * Deviled Eggs with Green Olives, Relish & Chipotle*

-Desserts-

- * Apple-Cran Pie*
- * Tollhouse Pecan Pie*
- * Lemon Blueberry Bars & Cookies*
- * Branded Pumpkin Pie*
- * Red Velvet Cake*

\$24.00 Adults 13+

\$12.99 Kids Ages 6-12

Kids 5 & Under Free

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