

The Seagull

Lakeside Terrace | 24 Sunrise Lane, Fruitland Park, FL 34731
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December 2024



Christmas Boat Parade

Donna + Will Johnson

2023

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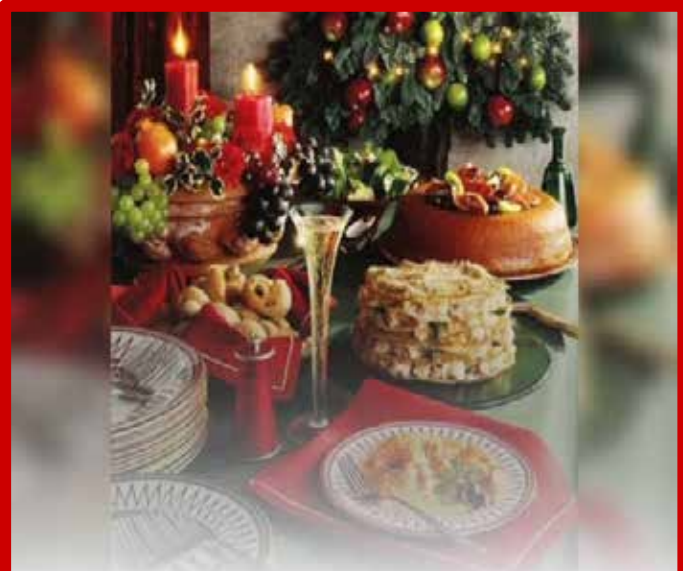


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Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 1PM
Lakeside Terrace Ladies Luncheon : Miz Kathi's Southern Cotillion
 Private · Event by Sue Moskwinski-Furry and Lakeside Terrace Family

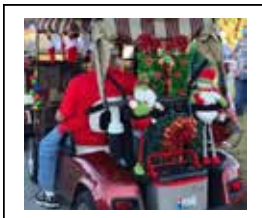
ELFS WILL BE DELIVERING
 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARDS
 BEGINNING TUESDAY 12/03/24
 THROUGH SATURDAY 12/21/24



Help the Elf's deliver your Christmas Cards to your neighbors in LST by being sure there is a name and address on the front of the envelope and placing it in the white mailbox on the counter in the clubhouse

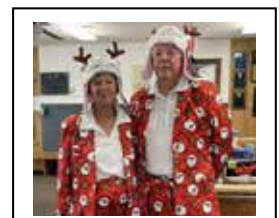


Sally Cannon Toys for Kids Christmas Party
Saturday December 7th



4 PM
Golf Cart Parade

Christmas Movie (After Dinner)
 Feel free to wear your Christmas jammies



5 PM
Pasta Dinner

Anyone who wants to bring food can bring your favorite **Christmas Cookies**



Please bring your new unwrapped **Child's Gift**

and **Non-Perishable Food Items** for the Food Pantry





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Social Club Calendar

December 2024

- Tue. 3rd Social Club Meet + Greet 6:30 PM
Social Club Meeting 7 PM
- Sat. 7th Toys for Kids Christmas Party:
Golf Cart Parade 4 PM
Pasta Dinner 5 PM
XMas Movie (After Dinner; title TBA)
- Thu. 12th Christmas Caroling 6 PM
- Wed. 25th Christmas Dinner (Time TBA)
- Wed. 25th thru Fri. 27th ELS' Office will be closed. The Office closure will not affect the Clubhouse; it will be open for all activities.
- Tue. 31st New Year's Eve Party (Time TBA)

Recurring Activities (Monthly)

- Thu. Ladies' Lunch Dec. 12, 1 PM
2nd Fri Book Club Dec. 13, 2 PM
2nd Sat. (**NO** HOA Meeting in Dec.)
3rd Wed. Grandma's Bingo + **Wine**
Dec.18, 6:30 PM
3rd Thu. Birthday Party Dec. 19, 5 PM

Recurring Activities (Weekly)

- Sundays = 1 PM Billiards
6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)
- Mondays = 7 AM Exercise with Peg
10 AM Pool Aerobics
1 PM Wii Bowling
5 PM Bingo
- Tuesdays = 9 AM Chair Yoga
1 PM Billiards
2 PM Left, Right, Center
- Wednesdays = 7 AM Exercise with Peg
9 AM - 2 PM Sew Birds
9:30 AM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)
10 AM Pool Aerobics
6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo
- Thursdays = 9 AM Chair Yoga
1 PM Mah Jongg
1 PM Shuffleboard
- Fridays = 7 AM Exercise with Peg
10 AM Pool Aerobics
1 PM Billiards
6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo
- Saturdays = 9 AM Coffee Klatch

Activities Lists

Donna Johnson, Seagull Winter Editor

Please notify me at djwj23@gmail.com re: any changes needed in the activities lists above. Thank you.

Social Club News

Martha Grove, President



Merry December from your Social Club.

A big Thank You to everyone who showed up to support our Veterans at the Breakfast. A special thank you for all of you who worked so hard to make this a success: Peg Aniol, Kim Thurman, Sue McFadden, Jane Belanger, Lorri Rowe, Liz Dziedzic, Rich McFadden, Tonya Lawhorn, April Haase and Darrell Diluzio. I hope I didn't forget anyone. You are all so appreciated.

There are lots of great activities this month, you don't want to miss out on the fun. Please check the boards, kiosks and Facebook for information.

Tue. Dec. 3rd: Social Club Meeting. 6:30 PM Meet and Greet, Meeting at 7:00.

Sat. Dec. 7th: Sally Cannon Toys for Kids Christmas Party. Please bring your new unwrapped gift and non-perishable food item for the food pantry. Thank you to Doug and Sue Rice for delivering the food. We will have a Golf Cart Parade. The Social Club will be providing a Pasta Dinner. We're asking anyone who wants to bring something to bring your favorite Christmas cookies. We will be showing a Christmas movie. Feel free to wear your Christmas jammies if you want.

Thu. Dec. 12th: Christmas Caroling at 6:00 PM.

Wed. Dec. 25th: Christmas Dinner at the Clubhouse. More info to come. We still need a chairperson.

Tue. Dec. 31st: New Year's Eve Party hosted by Darrell and Dianne. More info to come.

Please make sure you make it to the Social Club Meeting and bring your friends.



Request from Santa



Santa

Please help my elves deliver your neighbors' Christmas cards to you. Kindly place either a CLIP, BASKET, or BOX near your front door, where the elves can leave your cards.

Thanks for your help.

Santa

LST's Online Facebook Calendar

William Johnson

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/r/month/2024/11/1>

Sew Birds

Mary Ann Paquette

The Sew Birds are back. We started sewing on Nov. 13, and will sew every Wed. from 9 AM to 2 PM. Come and join us if you'd like to sew. Thank you.

The Meaning of Christmas and Christmas Songs

Ruth Bernier



The meaning of Christmas can vary for different people and cultures, but it's generally celebrated as a Christian holiday that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. For Christians, Christmas is a time to reflect on the significance of Jesus' birth, emphasizing themes of love, peace and good will to all.

Beyond its religious roots, Christmas has evolved into a widely celebrated cultural and festive occasion in many parts of the world. It often involves exchanging gifts, spending time with family and friends, decorating homes and trees with festive ornaments, and partaking in special meals and traditions.

Christmas is a time of spiritual reflection on the important foundations of the Christian faith. It's also a celebration. It is when Christians celebrate God's love for the world through the birth of the Christ child: Jesus. The Bible tells of his birth hundreds of years before, fulfilling prophecies.

The precise origin of assigning **December 25** as the birth date of Jesus is unclear. The New Testament provided no clues in this regard. **December 25** was first identified as the date of Jesus' birth by **Sextus Julius Africanus** in **221** and later became the universally accepted date. Christian writers frequently made the connection between the rebirth of the sun and the birth of the Son.

Christmas began to be widely celebrated with a specific liturgy in the 9th century but did not attain the liturgical importance of either **Good Friday** or **Easter**. Catholic churches celebrate the first Christmas mass at midnight, and Protestant churches have increasingly held Christmas candlelight services late on the evening of December 24th.

Renaissance humanist **Sebastian Brant** recorded, in *Das Narrenschiff* (1494 *The Ship of Fools*), the custom of placing branches of fir trees in houses.

The tradition of the Christmas tree was first observed in Strasbourg with fir trees decorated with apples in 1605. The first use of candles on such trees is recorded by a Silesian duchess in 1611. The **Advent wreath** - made with fir branches, with four candles denoting the four Sundays of the Advent season - began in the **19th century**. The **Advent calendar** was created in the **19th century** by a Munich housewife who tired of having to answer endlessly when Christmas would come. The calendar provides **24** openings, one to be opened every day starting **December 1st**. Towards the end of the **18th century**, the practice of giving gifts to family members became well established. The coming of the **Magi** was related to gift giving.

One fun thing associated with Christmas is the Christmas caroling, done by many nations and sung by all ages, young and old. Here is a list of the 10 best Christmas songs chosen randomly:

Rocking Around the Christmas Tree

by Brenda Lee

All I Want for Christmas is You

by Mariah Carey

Jingle Bell Rock

by Bobby Helms

Last Christmas

by Wham!

A Holly Jolly Christmas

by Burl Ives

It's The Most Wonderful Time of The Year

by Andy Williams

Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow

by Dean Martin



Heating and Air Conditioning Emergency Unit

Social Club and HOA can supply a portable Heating - A/C unit to be used if yours fails.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Emergency Portable Air Conditioner and Heater</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Heating - A/C Unit is housed at: 56 Terrace Drive</p> <p>TO USE, please CONTACT: Randy Ellis 508 - 697 - 8745 Martha Grove 352 - 973 - 9731</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Volunteers</u> who can assist in the pickup and setup of the unit:</p> <p>Rich McFadden 330 - 507 - 3674 Jim Filbert 330 - 207 - 0998</p> <p>(Park Maintenance) Monday - Friday 8 AM - 4 PM</p>
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Consent for Use and Liability

The Lakeside Terrace Social Club and HOA Boards are **loaning** a heating and air conditioning unit for use in your home. The loan is a stopgap measure due to the malfunction of your central system. It is only a short-term loan while permanent repairs are completed.

You are expected to return the unit in good working order, and to care for it properly while it's in your possession. You need to show a representative of either of these organizations that the unit is working properly before disconnecting and returning it. By receiving this equipment, you accept full responsibility for it and for its use.

Resident who will use the unit: _____
(Signature)

Address where it will be used: _____

Date Resident received unit: _____ **Date Unit returned:** _____

Witness: _____

Lake County Senior Watch

If you live alone or have medical problems and need someone to check on you, take advantage of the Lake County Sheriff's Office's Senior Watch Program.

- When you join, you'll be assigned an identification number. Then, just call the Senior Watch telephone operators each morning and tell them how you feel.
- If the Senior watch operators don't hear from you, they'll call you. If you don't answer the phone, they'll try to contact one of your neighbors or a relative to check on you. If they still can't contact you, a deputy will be dispatched to your home.

TO JOIN: Call the Lake County Sheriff's Office at 352 - 343 - 2101.

Select Option # 4. Provide your name, address, telephone number, age, medical condition, and details for your friends and relatives who can be contacted.

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FLORIDA ANCHOR AND BARRIER COMPANY

Feliz Navidad

by Jose Feliciano

Sleigh Ride

by The Ronettes

Santa Tell Me

by Arianda Grande

The songs were chosen by Billboard.

Festive activities will be coming up at the Clubhouse in the month of December. Be sure to check out The Seagull and join in the activities. I wish you all a month full of happiness, joy and good health.

Manager's Corner*Malinda Brown, Community Manager*

Well, we have finally made it to the end of Hurricane season. Woohoo!

Welcome to December! My favorite time of the Year. I love Christmas and the Spirit it brings. Here's to Good Tidings and Joy for all of us. Let's embrace the season of giving and caring and sharing. Many opportunities are available to do so. Don't forget the Annual Sally Cannon Toys for Kids Christmas Party on December 7th!

There are many projects/events coming up. Make sure to check in with the Social Club to stay up on them. They are a busy bunch and full of Blessings to be a part of.

Important reminder: If you have an EFT account, please get ahold of Darlene or me to change your direct withdrawal amount after December's rent payment to "balance due" for January. We also will need to know what amount you would like to be pulled for the months in 2025. By calculation of the new taxes, an extra \$64 monthly will cover taxes in January of 2026 if you would like to pay extra every month. If you have a request for a tax extension or payment plan, please let Darlene know ASAP so we can get that request submitted and processed before the first of the year.

I really can't believe this year is almost over. It went by so fast. So, take time to slow down for the holidays. Sing carols, spread cheer, and be the reason someone smiles today. We never know what each other is going through, and for many of us the holidays are sprinkled with sadness and grief for the loved ones no longer with us. Kindness goes a long way. And none of us are promised tomorrow, so let's live our best today together. ☺

"Life is Short, and if we enjoy every moment of every

day, then we'll be happy no matter what happens or what changes along the way". -Gretchen Bleiler

Please enjoy every moment and every memory December offers you. May we all end this year with smiles and love. Happy Holidays everyone!

FMO District 3

Randy Ellis, District 3 FMO President, FMO Park Representative, & LST HOA President

Greetings from the FMO:

As most of you know, I was elected as the new President for District 3 (Lake County) after the retirement of longtime President John Petrella.

The FMO conducts monthly meetings Oct. - March (except Dec.). Our first meeting had to be relocated to Lakeside Terrace. Thank You to both the Social Club and Park Manager, Malinda Brown. The main topic was from our guest speaker Julie Graham discussing the upcoming changes in Medicare. Other things that were discussed were how to increase FMO membership across Lake County, and the Fire Tax that every resident in Lake County has to pay. Because we represent many Mobile Homes in Lake County (District 3), I brought up the idea of forming a committee to see if we could bargain with the County about getting a reduction of this tax for all residents that live in age restricted parks (such as ours). I also brought up this idea at the HOA Meeting on Nov. 9th. I've heard that it may be a tough road ahead, but I feel it is something to be looked into.

Next FMO Meeting: November 21, 2024

Water Oak

216 Magnolia Drive, Lady Lake, FL 32159

Topic: Setting Up Neighborhood Watch

(Walter Wolf)

You do not have to be a member to attend any FMO meetings. If you have never attended a meeting, or are wondering what the FMO is about, please come check us out.

Again, please consider joining **FMO**, whose purpose is to **Protect us as Florida Mobile Homeowners**. Per household, dues are only \$30 per year or \$75 for three years.

If you have any questions or need an application, please contact me at **508 - 697 - 8745** or email me: randyellis01@gmail.com. Thank You.



NOVEMBER
 S M T W T F S
 1 2
 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
 17 18 19 20 21 22 23
 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>1</p> <p>1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)</p> <p>First Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center Soc. Club: Meet/Greet 6:30 PM, Meeting 7 PM</p>	<p>7 AM Exercise 9 AM - 2 PM 9:30 AM Euchre (\$50; Prizes) 10 AM Pool A 6:30 PM Not Grandma's Bi</p>
<p>8</p> <p>1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center</p>	<p>7 AM Exercise 9 AM - 2 PM 9:30 AM Euchre (\$50; Prizes) 10 AM Pool A 6:30 PM Not Grandma's Bi</p>
<p>15</p> <p>1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center</p>	<p>7 AM Exercise 9 AM - 2 PM 9:30 AM Euchre (\$50; Prizes) 10 AM Pool A 6:30 PM "Gr Bingo + Win</p>
<p>22</p> <p>1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p>	<p>7 AM Exercise 9:30 AM Euchre (\$50; Prizes) 10 AM Pool A XMas Dinner 6:30 PM Not Grandma's Bi</p> <p>Chris</p>
<p>29</p> <p>1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center New Year's Eve Party (Time TBA)</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>	

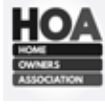
BER 2024

JANUARY						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>Exercise with Peg Sew Birds Lunch (Bring Aerobics Your Bingo</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Mah Jongg 1 PM Shuffleboard</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Billiards 6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9 AM Coffee Klatch Toys/Kids/XMas: Golf Carts 4 PM, Dinner 5 PM, + XMas Movie <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i></p>
<p>11</p> <p>Exercise with Peg Sew Birds Lunch (Bring Aerobics Your Bingo</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga Ladies' Lunch 1 PM 1 PM Mah Jongg 1 PM Shuffleboard XMas Caroling 6 PM</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Billiards Book Club Dec. 13, 2 PM 6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9 AM Coffee Klatch</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Exercise with Peg Sew Birds Lunch (Bring Aerobics Grandma's "e" night.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Mah Jongg 1 PM Shuffleboard Birthday Party Dec. 19, 5 PM</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Billiards 6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9 AM Coffee Klatch <i>First Day of Winter</i></p>
<p>25</p> <p>Exercise with Peg Lunch (Bring Aerobics (Time TBA) Your Bingo <i>Christmas</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>9 AM Chair Yoga 1 PM Mah Jongg 1 PM Shuffleboard</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Billiards 6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 AM Coffee Klatch</p>

Lakeside Terrace HOA

Randy Ellis, President, Lakeside Terrace Homeowners Association Inc.



Greetings from the HOA:

As I write this article, it is Nov. 9; we just completed our final HOA Meeting of the year. Still no new news regarding the Shed(s) and Clubhouse Project. We have seen contractors making their way around the Clubhouse as they prepare their bid. I believe there are 4 different construction companies preparing bids for ELS. We also discussed the Pass Thru and Fire Tax. We explained that these taxes are only an estimate on the statement we receive from ELS regarding our rent increase notice. These taxes are adjusted in late Nov. or early Dec. At this point, we have not heard back from ELS regarding the adjustment. Stay Tuned.

Our next Board Meeting will be the Mandatory Annual Meeting as prescribed by FL Statute 723 on Tue. Jan. 14, 2025 @ 6:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. At this point, there will be No Elections and no major issues to vote on. We will have the Wish List available if anyone wishes to fill one out. The Wish List is done annually and submitted to the Park Manager. From my travels (via FMO Meetings), this is something that is done in most Parks.

Moving on, it has been over a month since Hurricane Milton made its presence known. While our properties have been cleaned there's plenty of debris at the side of the roads. It does appear that many repairs for many homes are under way. The most important thing is, we were all safe.

As most everyone knows, we communicate using Facebook and Email. If you are not on Facebook, and do not have an email address and would like to receive a hard copy of my communications, please get a message to me and I will do the best I can to provide you with such. If you are not receiving Emails from the HOA, please contact us so that you can be added to our emailing list. Any personal information that the HOA receives from a resident is not shared with any outside groups. With your consent, it can be shared with the Social Club and our in-park directory. There are Resident Information Forms at the Clubhouse for anyone who needs to update their personal information with the HOA. We also have a new Comment/Wish List Slip at the Clubhouse. The HOA has a locked box at the Clubhouse where anyone can submit these

forms or slips.

If anyone has any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Randyellis01@gmail.com

Lakesideterracehoa@gmail.com

Telephone: 508 - 697 - 8745

Turning Pages

Carol Roberts



I don't identify as a mystery novel reader, but I do enjoy a puzzle or mystery with a focus on character. In a nod to the LST Jesse Stone movie mavens, my most recent read was a Robert B. Parker novel. Parker wrote the first six books in the Sunny Randall series, and after his death in 2010, his estate chose to continue her exploits. The series continued with Blood Feud (2018) and Grudge Match (2020) written by Parker's friend, sports journalist Mike Lupica. The eleventh book in the series, Bad Influence, was written by Alison Gaylin and published in 2023. Sunny's most recent adventure, Buzz Kill, is also written by Gaylin. It's a classic who-done-it in a contemporary setting. Gen Z whiz kid Dylan Welch, with his lifelong best friend and business partner Sky Farley, founds Gonzo Energy Drink, which becomes massively successful. Indulged by his billionaire family, Dylan is lazy, entitled, duplicitous, and immoral. Although his family is encouraged by this apparent new-found focus in his life, given his past escapades, no one is terribly concerned when he disappears—until he doesn't reappear. Convinced by his worried mother to find Dylan, Sunny Randall unearths every possible skeleton in Dylan's personal closet and uncovers a deadly conspiracy involving the recipe for Gonzo. Of course, murders ensue, legit clues are dropped, and red herrings appear until Sunny finally puts it all together. Dylan is rescued, and the murderer is identified. This was a fun read, if typical, but I really enjoyed getting to know Sunny Randall, former cop and divorced partner of Mafia made man Richie Burke. Sunny's personal life is woven into the plot as she must decide whether to retire, as her former husband seems to desire, and seeks advice from friends and family, including her dad Phil and former father-in-law Desmond Burke. As she wrestles with her decision, the investigation into Dylan Welch threatens both Sunny and her family.

Another mystery series author whom I enjoy is Louise Penny. Her series of novels concerning the cases of Armand Gamache, detective and eventually commander of the Surete in Quebec, are also quite formulaic. But Penny goes out of her way to explore the Commandant's relationships with a wide range of quirky characters that populate the setting of Three Pines, a small village loosely based on Penny's hometown of Knowlton, Quebec. Sincere emotions and moral crises are stock in trade for Penny as Gamache pursues murderers, corrupt officials, and terrorists. Gamache's family and friends are often put directly at risk, and Gamache himself has endured betrayal, attempted murder, and life-threatening injury. In one story line, Gamache's investigation leads to the imprisonment of a close friend. It is not until several more books in the series that he realizes his mistake. He is a flawed character himself, which allows Penny to philosophize about evil and good and to explore the complexities of power. The 19th book in the Armand Gamache series is *The Grey Wolf*. In it, Gamache and his trusted lieutenant son-in-law Jean-Guy Beauvoir and Isabelle Lacoste are tasked with preventing a horrific act of eco-terrorism. The investigation of two seemingly unrelated gangland-style killings leads the team to the discovery of a plot that could destroy Quebec and threaten the entire world. To save Quebec and their homes in Three Pines, they travel to remote monasteries in Canada and France, to the Vatican, and to Washington, DC on a manhunt for the person who can supply the critical information about the attack. Before the case is closed, everyone is suspect—old friends, current bosses, former enemies. A whistle-blower and several cryptic clues in the form of notes secreted in Gamache's belongings finally allow the team to thwart the terrorists' plan as those corrupt officials at the helm are exposed. Part of the appeal of Penny's books is the serene and innocent setting of Three Pines coupled with its population of eccentric artists, storekeepers, restaurateurs, and retired professionals—a poet and a psychologist.

The next meeting of the Better Than Therapy Book Club is on Fri. Dec. 13, in the Clubhouse, at 2:00 PM. We'll be discussing Susan Orlean's non-fiction book "The Library Book." Our club meets on the 2nd Fri. of each month, year round. New members are always welcome! Contact Carol Roberts at 937 - 409 - 2844.

Happy Birthday!



Judy Bryant, Mary Burel, Regina Filbert, Betty Fleming, Bill Kellerman, Dan (Bucky) Neely, Bobby Pettitt, Bill Smith, Gloria Stephenson, Skip Van Amberg, & Peggy Wathen.

Happy Anniversary!



Peg & Rich Aniol, Randy & Terri Ellis, Douglas & Gillian Irish, Jerry & Kathy Kowalski, Kenny & Rosie Ratcliff, Gail & Jim Roth, Don & Sherry Shaw, & Bill & Shirley Smith.

Fifty Nifty Fifty

Randy Ellis

Many have reached that milestone of being married 50 Years. Do we really know what the future holds? You say, "I DO", and some may ask themselves what they did.

We met when I was a Sophomore and Terri was a Senior in High School on Sept. 8, 1971. We did not have our first date until 10 months later.

The date was Dec. 29, 1974, when we exchanged our vows. I was 19 and thought I had a great career ahead of me as a Theatre Manager. Terri was 21 and worked as a store clerk for a major department store. Yes, our careers did change. But our love grew stronger. 4 years later, we brought our first daughter (Jessica) into the world, 4 years after that Katie came along, which many of you in the park have met. We then built our home in which we would reside for many years. Yes, like most couples, we are no different, we had our bumps along the way, but we never stopped loving each other. I feel very proud of the parents we became, and truthfully, bringing up our 2 daughters was the happiest time in my life. Many memories that I will never forget. I never called my daughters by their first names; Jessica was JJ and Katie was Sally. Terri would use both first and middle names at times. Then came grandchildren, something I will cherish for the rest of my life. I remember always seeing bumper stickers on cars "Let me tell you about my grandchildren" and wondered why people would



Continued on page 14

have such bumper stickers. Now I understand. As retirement came upon us, we felt the need to try a change, and we became your neighbor and friend here at Lakeside Terrace. We travel back home during the holidays, but even our grandchildren are now getting older and are developing their own interest. But through it all, Terri and I stuck it out together. On Dec. 29th, we will be renewing our vows in front of Daughters and Grandchildren. I don't think we will be as nervous as we were fifty years before. We will be doing this in the church in front of many other parishioners as well, so maybe there will be some butterflies. At our HOA meeting I told everyone about our 50th Wedding Anniversary that was coming up and told Terri that I Loved Her in front of everyone. Yes, I did embarrass her. Better Yet, she doesn't know I wrote this article either.

Happy Anniversary, My Love.

Randy



Hurricane Daze

Rich McFadden

Regarding our hurricanes in Oct., to say we dodged a couple of bullets is to say we dodged a couple of cannonballs. Luckily all we got was some shrapnel.

(Aunt) Helene decided not to pay us a visit, and instead went on a tour of the Panhandle and the Carolinas - a very expensive trip that she didn't pay for. Sadly, with little expectation of survival, many lives were lost, and the cost of her destruction is in the billions.

However, as we waited in apprehension for two or three days, (Uncle) Milton did a fly-by to let us know he was in town. Though we protected life and limb, our roofs and carports took a beating - not to mention a few trees. But as we've seen over the past week or two, the damage to South Florida is incalculable. Beachfront properties are destroyed, homes and cars flooded out - all the way to Sanford. People's lives and livelihoods were put in jeopardy for years to come. For those hardy LST souls who stayed in their homes in the face of an oncoming potential disaster, I can tell you unequivocally it was not worth the risk. If you can't get out of the area, go to a hotel or hurricane shelter, but just get out!

The aftermath is what I call "Hurricane Daze." We are at first happy we survived, maybe with minimal damage and renewed respect for Mother Nature,

but then we become depressed by catastrophic effects we see others have endured and wonder "where do we go from here?" Thus, we have the desire - the need - to get together with our LST family and friends, to share our concerns, to give help where help is needed, to rebuild our damaged homes, to rebuild our damaged spirits.

An elderly man, years ago, after surviving another Florida hurricane, was asked, "why don't you just leave?" In response, he said, "Why would I leave? This is paradise!"

Our Lakeside Terrace Family

Brenda Burleigh

Last night, I took a moment to reflect on my home. I'm not ashamed that it's a trailer; in fact, I'm proud of it! I hear so many people putting others down for not living in a traditional house, but here's the truth: this space is ours, and it's filled with love and laughter. It's where my family gathers, makes memories, and creates a sense of belonging.

We're not less than anyone just because we choose not to be house poor. A true home is about the family inside it and the moments we share together.

So, no matter where you live, never let anyone make you feel inferior. Our worth is not defined by our address; it's defined by the love, support, and connection within our family. Embrace your space and celebrate what makes it special - because it's the love of our family that truly makes a house a home! Family includes our Lakeside Terrace family, don't forget that; family comes in many forms. We all came together after Hurricane Milton. Just one big family keeping it together. Do you see that in The Villages? Not.

December

Jeanne Sullivan



Welcome. It seems every month has something special about it. December is no exception. It is the last month before we wade into the uncharted waters of a new year. Now, I do like the anticipation of children, the lights, the decorations, big family dinners, mouthwatering foods. Especially Christmas cookies. No matter what wonderful plans you and your family have for the Christmas season, remember to set aside time to remember

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Jesus Christ in prayer and worship. Thank Him for all He has done for you. I put my trust in the Lord for He has certainly looked after me from the day I was born. I need to be even more thankful as I celebrate the day He was born.

The Little Lamb

Jeanne Sullivan



The light dusting of snow on the ground reflected the bright stars making the snow sparkle with a million tiny lights.... It was a clear cool night with a slight chill in the air. This was my first winter and I shivered even though I had a soft woolly coat. I snuggled into my mom. She had a thick coat of unshorn wool.

A shepherd sat sleepily leaning against a large tree. The sound of the sheep softly bleating was lulling him to sleep.

The night grew colder and the stars brighter. The sheep became restless, alerting the Shepherds to some possible danger.

Mother nuzzled me closer.

"I don't know what's happening," she whispered, "but the shepherds will take care of us. No matter what it is or what happens, you stay close to me."

She didn't have to tell me that. I was already as close as I could get.

The sky grew even brighter with the appearance of a huge star that looked so close you could touch it. There was the sound of music. A being wearing a white flowing gown appeared in our midst.

The shepherds trembled at the sight.

"Do not be afraid," it spoke. "I have come to tell you of the birth of a child. He is the son of God. Follow the bright light to Bethlehem where He lies in a manger."

Then appeared a choir of hundreds of Angels praising God singing "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and goodwill toward men."

"Come" commanded one of the shepherds to all of us. "We will travel with the light from the star. If we hurry, we may be the first to see this son of God. What an honor that would be."

We headed in the direction of the star.... I could barely keep up with the flock and stumbled several times.

"Come here, little one," a shepherd called to me.

He lifted me so high I was frightened. I looked toward my mother, and she nodded her approval as

she hustled to keep up with the Shepherd. Then he put me on his shoulder. It was much better there. I could see everyone and didn't have to struggle to keep up. I don't know how far we traveled. The rhythmic stride of the shepherd comforted me, and I dozed along the way.

When I woke I could see the bright star just overhead. When the shepherds stopped there were two people watching over a baby in a manger. Several animals watched approvingly as their bodies swayed in unison.

From my advantage on the shepherd's shoulder, I gazed into the peaceful face of the child. He looked back at me. I'm sure He smiled at me and I felt a joy I had not known before.

"This child will change the world," agreed the shepherds. We have been blessed to see Him.

The shepherd set me down beside my mother as he turned back toward the manger. Then he knelt and bowed his head.

My mother and some of the sheep quietly spoke with the other animals. None really knew the reason this was such an important occasion, but they could feel the importance of these events. All turned toward the manger and bowed their heads.

"Come," said the shepherds; we have a long way to go before dawn. There was no urgency on our walk back. We all strolled in reverent silence trying to contemplate all we had just experienced.

There was no way of knowing then that this beautiful child would one day sacrifice his life for all mankind.

Blessed are those who come to know Him. Blessed are they that invite Him into their heart and allow Him to lead them. Blessed are they who receive the gifts only God can give. Blessed are ye who have gathered here today to worship Him.



*Merry
Christmas*

The <Winter> Seagull

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 Winter Editions = Nov. thru April
 Contribution Deadline:
 10th of the prior month.
 Extra *Seagulls* are at the Clubhouse.



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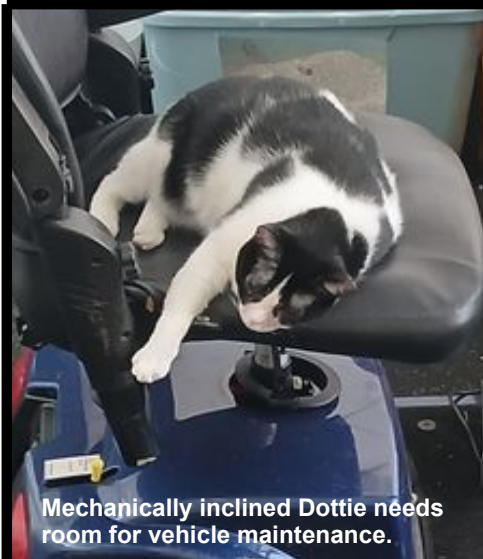
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Episode 5

The *REAL* Residents of Lakeside Terrace

The Cat House posed special challenges for the producers and took more time to develop. Renovating rooms and rehabbing the house for distinct personalities and skills demanded more creativity and vision than formerly called for. But all feline residents seem content with the space.



Mechanically inclined Dottie needs room for vehicle maintenance.



Babygirl's ready for book club!



Leila's preferred nap position clearly shows a military background. (IFYKY)



Arbiters of tasteful decor, Homer and Chester watch for infractions.



Peachy controls nightly viewing but will accept requests.



Maggie (the cat) seems blissfully unaware of her sexy namesake as she reclines on cool bedding.



Scarlett has decided to think about it tomorrow .

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