

# THE BEACON

BEACON TERRACE MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITY  
VOLUME 20, ISSUE 8

2425 HARDEN BLVD, LAKELAND, FL 33803  
APRIL /MAY 2020

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE HOMEOWNERS OF BEACON TERRACE



*(Left) While life is on hold during the current viral outbreak, so is the completion of the poolside beach mural. Designed and painted by resident Kelly Seward, the finishing touches will have to wait until she returns next season. Thanks, Kelly!*

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## BT Volunteers Offer Assistance During COVID-19 Crisis

By Doug Howison

During this time of the Covid-19 health crisis, Beacon Terrace has a group of volunteers that would like to offer assistance to anyone who feels they need it. The team consists of your neighbors and will help you with certain tasks so you can avoid larger groups. Shopping for home needs and medications are the two greatest needs we all require and also the greatest risk of contact.

Many of our local stores and pharmacies will now deliver items such as medications, food, and home supplies directly to your residence. Many at little to no cost. Some of the same stores have home shopping programs that allow you to order these items for pick up outside the store thus minimizing contact with others. If you do not have or cannot arrange transportation to the store, we will assist you.

I would advise those of you who feel concerned about coming in contact with others to use these free programs to obtain your home necessities. If you feel you do not understand how to do this, or do not have a computer to do it, we will assist you. I have found these free services to be relatively easy to do and totally effective in limiting contact with others in a store setting. You will need a credit card to pay for the items, so no contact is required at the store to complete the sale.

Please let us know if we can assist you in any way around your home. Contact the following for help:

**Doug Howison (863) 816-3917 (Home) or (847) 602-2644 (Cell); Lot 152**

**Don Kohnke (863) 397-3836 (Home) or (920) 204-4160 (Cell) ; Lot 13**

## FROM OUR H.O.A. LEADERSHIP



**DON KOHNKE**

**H.O.A. President**

**Cell phone: 920-204-4160**

**Email: grandpadn@gmail.com**

As I write this, we are in the throws of a medical crisis that has caused a cancellation of most of our activities that occur inside the Clubhouse and a major one at the pool. This is highly unfortunate, but deemed critical to reduce the possibility of sharing the Covid-19 virus with our friends and residents. Each of us finds this a challenge, but one we must face and hopefully we can get to a future point where this will no longer be required. It comes at a time where many of our seasonal friends will be returning to their summer homes without the chance to share many of the experiences, they, and we were looking forward to. We will miss you all dearly, but life goes on.

Many things have been accomplished during the last month. Of course, I must begin with the annual Bazaar.

A huge thanks goes to all who volunteered to help make this event so successful again this year. For those who don't see what occurs, it is really amazing. On Tuesday evening, a group of volunteers clears the Clubhouse to be ready to accept all the goods donated from all you residents. These goods completely fill up two large truck containers and other buildings. Early Wednesday morning dozens of volunteers completely empty the containers into the Clubhouse and continue to pick up addition donated items. This all occurs within about four hours.

If you came to the Clubhouse at 11 am Wednesday, you would not believe the huge collection of various items strewn all over the Clubhouse and outside the back door. That's when the volunteer ants take over. The ladies and men draw on their many years of experience and begin their organizing duties separating and categorizing the huge amount of donations into various locations in preparation for Thursday, which begins by 9 am.

Thursday the organizing continues and culminates with a completely organized, finely structured room with pricing completed on the majority of the items. Once organized, this takes less time than one may think being totally complete by Friday morning. I handle the electronics area, so from my viewpoint at the north end of the building, I can see virtually everything transpiring in front of my eyes. I find it absolutely amazing how efficient the volunteers go about their business with each one somehow knowing what needs to be done and they just do it! They transform the apparent confusion of Wednesday morning into a very functional shopping experience for all residents and others from the Lakeland area. Once the shopping days conclude on Saturday at noon, that is when the final highly organized function occurs...Cleanup.

I spent many years in the military, but nothing there compares to how efficiently the crew removes all the left over items, which are separated and donated to various organizations, vacuums all the carpeting, cleans the wood floor, and reinstalls all the furniture removed Tuesday evening, AND does it all within one hour. That can only be done by people who work so well together and are so coordinated that it brings tears to my eyes. I am so proud of being a part of this group. I wish those of you who read this think about volunteering next year. It is by far one fantastic experience.

If you have been down the Nature Trail recently you would notice the trail is now much smoother and contains new vegetation in many locations. Thanks go out to the men who distributed and smoothed out the sand piles on many areas of the trail including the hill near the compound. Thanks also goes out to Billie Lindsay who has taken the lead on making the trail more beautiful. If you frequent the trail, consider taking a little time to water some of the plants. Also, if you have plants that you would like to donate, please contact Billie (lot 194) and she will find a new home for them. We also have a memorial area about half way down the trail which will soon have a bench for refecation.

The months of April and May are transition months here at Beacon Terrace. We say goodbye to our seasonal residents and say hello to the rainy season in Florida. The weather begins to share a picture of summer in Florida with temperatures and humidity rising. We can start setting our watches to the daily 3 pm rain, which is a welcome break from the heat and seems to clean the air of that nasty pollen. Life seems to slow down a bit, but we still plan to have many activities, so full-timers, please join in the summer fun.

Get to know your neighbors. Help each other as needed. Share your time with those who truly appreciate a little bit of attention. We are all in about the same age bracket, so you may find many of us share the same goals and wishes for the future. You will feel much better if you stay active and the best way to do that is with sharing your time with others.

Be assured, we will get past the current issues and return to the fully functional community we all enjoy.

Thank you for allowing me to be your HOA Board President.

*Life is full of waves ~*

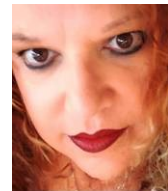
*Let's learn how to surf!*

**SHERRY DEFRANCISCO**

**Social Activities Chairperson**

**Lot# 215 Cell: 614-309-2605**

**Email: sherrykeefe@aol.com**



Life can really be a lot like the ocean: calm and balmy breakers one minute, and then crazy big monster waves the next. We can all learn to ride the wave and allow our inner mermaid to manifest. A few ideas to help ride this monster wave...

- \* *Make a recipe* that you're just been waiting to try. Cook with your roomie— it can be fun.
- \* *Listen to music.* Fill your heart and soul with joy.
- \* *Limit your news intake.* It's good to be informed but bad for the spirit to be submerged.
- \* *Talk to your friends and relatives* about happy memories. Tell stories that bring you smiles.
- \* *Take a walk or sit outside* for at least 15 minutes: you will be surprised at how much better you feel.
- \* *Do that little project in your house* that you've just been meaning to do, like the junk drawer (lol).
- \* *Go online to take a virtual tour* of 12 famous museums. Search Pinterest for the link.

When life gives you lemons, make my recipe for the perfect lemonade: 1 c. lemon juice, 1 c. sugar, and 3 c. water.

Please call me if I can be of any assistance. I'm always glad to help: 614-309-2605. *Love to you all!*

-----

## **History Will Remember When the World Stopped**

**History will remember when the world stopped  
And the flights stayed on the ground.  
And the cars parked in the street.  
And the trains didn't run.**

**History will remember when the schools closed  
And the children stayed indoors  
And the medical staff walked towards the fire  
And they didn't run.**

**History will remember when the people sang  
On their balconies, in isolation  
But so very much together  
In courage and song.**

**History will remember when the people fought  
For their old and their weak  
Protected the vulnerable  
By doing nothing at all.**

**History will remember when the virus left  
And the houses opened  
And the people came out  
And hugged and kissed  
And started again**

**Kinder than before.**

**Donna Ashworth**



2425  
A 55+ SENIOR COMMUNITY

**THE BEACON  
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# **A Letter from the HOA President During the COVID-19 Crisis**

*Beacon Terrace Residents,*

During these challenging times we all face disruptions to our daily activities. Many of us are retired and have become accustomed to our relaxed and comfortable lifestyles. We have daily schedules that included activities that are now being restricted due to mandates that have been established to slow the possible spread of the Covid-19 virus. I am writing this because this issue of The Beacon covers the months of April and May and we have no idea how long this will last.

Historically, the best way to suppress the spread of a contagious virus, for which there is no know cure, is to reduce contact. Today we call it “Social Distancing”. That sounds like something that is voluntary and self-controlled, yet it is absolutely mandatory to prevent contact with those who may have been exposed and don’t realize it. I know you are all educated people who understand this, and I believe to date, none of us has been infected, but we all go out into the public sector to do necessary activities, so we are susceptible to contact with those who have. That is why the Clubhouse and pool are locked. Just imagine what could occur if one of the residents unknowingly became infected and touched anything within the Clubhouse or pool. They could inadvertently share it with others who became sick. We are all in the age bracket that is most susceptible to infection.

I find this time eerily similar to what many of us remember as the Polio epidemic of the 1950’s. Think back, remember what occurred then. Schools were closed, services were locked out, and literally millions of people were infected and died before a cure was developed. That was in a time where communication was greatly limited compared to today. This virus is very contagious, but it was identified very quickly and controls began immediately in this country., unlike with Polio. If we follow Social Distancing and other recommendations, the effect of the virus will be greatly decreased.

This current crisis involves everyone, including local government services. Basically, all local services, (libraries, pools, parks, etc.) besides police and emergency medical care have been affected. Lakeland Services, your electrical and sanitary services still operate, but with restricted contact with customers. Surprisingly, there are still many golf courses open to the public with restricted amenities, such as closed or restricted dining areas. This too may change.

The timing of this crisis could not have been worse for those of us who wish we could have had the pool repaired during this time. It sounds like a perfect time to get this done, but there is no one currently available to provide the required permits or inspections to move forward. As our property manager noted, had she foreseen this crisis, which of course no one could, she would have applied more pressure to get the required permits. Even with this, would anyone be available to do it?

With all the personal concerns we all have; we still have each other. I ask you to help those around you who need it. Now is the time we can use our American ingenuity to develop activities that can be done within the current guidelines. ELS has mandated that all common areas are off limits, but that only limits us to using those areas. Small groups gathering at a personal residence to play cards in a carport, or a screened in Florida room, for example could fall within the restrictions.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Don Kohnke, President  
Beacon Terrace Home Owners Association



POETRY CORNER

## ***"Collage Cheers"***

*By Joy Nipper, Lot 69*



**The twins have started college  
So I had to get in gear  
With all their studies I was sure  
That they would like some cheer  
It's not a normal missile  
As that would just not do  
So, following's a sample  
I've written just for you:**

**I stubbed my tow this morning  
As I got out of bed  
Let out a yell & hopped around  
The pane was much I said.  
I thought perhaps some coffee  
Would soothe my injured pride  
So poored a cup & settled down  
To calm the mind inside.  
When in my haste to taste the brew  
Within my hand did slip  
The cup that held the coffee  
Then burned my upper lip.  
The pain I felt did cost me deer  
I'm sure I turned quite pail  
But hoped my day would now improve  
And through it I would sale.  
So now it's thyme to say goodbye  
I've told you what I dew  
My girls enjoy my whacky rhymes  
I hope that you will two.**

## ***Words of Wisdom in Uncertain Times***

Positive change will come from this.  
People will find creative solutions to  
problems, get to know those strangers  
they live with, and  
make plans for the future.

~~~~~

**BE A BEACON OF KINDNESS,  
PEACE & COURAGE**

~~~~~

"Hardships often prepare ordinary  
people for an extraordinary  
destiny." - C.S. Lewis.

~~~~~

"For God has not given us a spirit of  
fear, but of power and of love and of a  
sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7



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exceeding YOUR expectations is my goal!*

# Beacon Terrace Annual Bazaar:

## *That's A Wrap*

By Fleurette (Flo) Olive, Lot #158

The bazaar is over for another year and the outcome was very good since we exceeded our \$5K target yet again. With many people to thank, I believe everyone deserves a huge pat on the back for their hard work and dedication. The bazaar is the premier event of this park that brings many residents united together with one objective, even some with their own struggles and health issues, but still do not hesitate to help however they can. To see how everyone cooperates and works together with one common goal inspires me when I see the joy they have of working and laughing together. We are fortunate that the bazaar did not occur one week later since the clubhouse was officially closed to large groups effective Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> due to the Corona virus. We are grateful that Mother Nature fully cooperated again this year and we were all very thankful for the good weather that week.

First and foremost, I would like to thank and acknowledge my assistant coordinators who provided valuable advice and support when we met several times prior to the big event: **Cheryl Woloshyn, Cathy McLean and Brad Baker**. What an awesome team! Beacon Terrace is truly lucky to have such dedicated snowbirds who never hesitate to help out whenever possible. We all certainly appreciate our newest resident, Cathy McLean who kept us well fed with muffins and delicious sandwiches during our set-up process. What a tremendous asset her and her husband Neil are to this community! We are very lucky they chose Beacon Terrace to spend their winters.



The men who worked in the furniture area never disappoint. They all worked very hard to bring items to the clubhouse from the storage area. Kudos to all of them! The **Silent Auction** table generated over \$800 again this year. **Doug Howison** was determined to get as many corporate sponsors as possible and did an amazing job getting so many of them to donate gift certificates and gift baskets. Special mention and thanks to our resident artist, **Kelly Seward** for another beautiful water color this year. **Elaine Hudson** was able to obtain a certificate for a massage from **Day Dreams Spa**. Thanks also to **Carol Umensetter** and **Tim DeFrancisco** of the **RP Funding Center** for tickets to *An American in Paris* along with dinner for two. The corporate sponsors who made very generous donations besides the aforementioned include: **Il Forno Restaurant, Fat Jack's Restaurant, Wedgewood Golf Course, Cleveland Heights Golf Course** (thanks to **Dave Sharpe** for getting all the golf passes), **AztecA Mexican Restaurant, Golf etc, Luke's Brewhouse, Fish City Grill, Harry's, GrillSmith, Benson's Canine Cookies, Pet SuperMarket, Mission BBQ** and **The Doggie Bag**. ELS contributed a \$50 VISA card to the Silent Auction; thanks to our park manager **Lisa Peardon** for this generous donation. The homemade preserves sold out fast this year; thanks to **Cathy McLean** for making the jam and **Lynn Barnett** for the pickles she was determined to make last Fall, prior to her sudden passing in January. Everyone who baked should know that you helped to generate over \$600+ in profits. Thanks to everyone for their specialty items.

I would also like to thank the team leaders who accepted the responsibility for being in charge of the various stations including: **Moreen Roth** - Bake Table, **Don Kohnke** - Electronics, **Terry Richardson** - Sporting goods, **Larry Woloshyn** - BBQ Grill, **Martha Pascale** - Linens, **Suzette Giles** - Clothes, **Brad Baker** and **Sherry DeFrancisco** - Furniture, **Janet Provost** - Knick Knacks, **Betty Probasco** and **Ann Laundra** - Jewelry, **Cathie Nieman** and **Sandra Lewis**, Glassware, **Barb Heacock** and **Norma Phillips** - Art, **Carol Edwards** - Flowers, **Tony Hudson** - MC, **Walt Swink** - Parking, **Marilyn Baker** and her cashiers and baggers, **Dolly and Irwin Lengel** - Silent Auction, **Don** and **Sharon Smith** - 50/50. Special thanks to **Jerry Whitman** and **Leon Pocock** who led the troops from the storage compound to the clubhouse on Wednesday and also for picking up donated items to put in storage throughout the year.->

## *Gloria Buehrig is a Beacon Terrace Original Treasure*

It was July of 1983 when Gloria and Howard Buehrig began looking for a place to retire in Central Florida. They said to each other that they were “Just Looking” as both of them were still working. They looked at several parks in the area and at the last park they visited, they mentioned that there was one more park to look at. It was Beacon Terrace in Lakeland. The person they talked with said, “You’ll buy there!”

They insisted that they were “Just Looking”.

Well, they looked at Beacon Terrace and bought #26. Then they went back to Buffalo, NY to resume work. In October of that year they retired and became full time residents.

Beacon Terrace at the time was an “Adult Park” with the youngest age being 40. This was later changed to be over 55 when some in their 40s had small children and were looking to move in here.

There were only 128 lots with the end being Heather Street. Lot 1 was the office and the clubhouse was about half as big as it is now. Every house had a palm tree.



### **BT Bazaar: *That’s a Wrap*, continued**

Others who worked hard also include: Ruth Cottingham, Jacquie Provost, Judy Leek, Duke Relyea, Regina Marshall, Lucy Geist, Sandy Howison, Elba Chirel, Pam Murphy, Duane Johnson, Dean Clawson, Jerry Baan, Rick Gaudet, Bruce and Debbie Jantzi, Roland Roberge, Joe Boike, Barb Dunlop, Christine Gaudet, Betty McAlpine, Billie Lindsay, Karen Jersey, Laura Hopkins, Dudley Phillips, Peter Pirro, Ann Snavelly, Nancy Feligno, Pat Gray, Neil McLean, Ina Price, Ola Currie, Mike Olive, Bob Provost, Sue and Mike Lesko, Rowena and Bruce Kornack, Dave and Robin Dunn, Anne and Brian Poole, Sheila Rewis, Tom Gumm, Diane Deming and Joe Garygajalo. **Kathleen Carr** and **Chuck Snavelly**, counted the money and kept us all guessing until the very end. As the Beacon readers can see, it takes an army to run a good bazaar.

I probably forgot to mention some names, but please know that your time and efforts were very much appreciated. It was definitely a wonderful team effort and I thoroughly enjoyed being a small part of it all. Together we worked hard, had some fun, met some new residents and made lots of money for the park in the process. There are really not enough words to express my gratitude to everyone who worked together. Resident volunteers of Beacon Terrace should all be very proud of the outcome. It’s the people here who make this 55+ community so special. Mike and I love spending our winters here and wish we could stay longer however, our government and health insurance provider issued a serious travel advisory on March 13<sup>th</sup> stating we have just 10 days to return to Canada or we will not be covered should any medical emergency happen to us out of country due to the Corona Virus. Therefore, we will be on the road sooner than anticipated by the time you read this article. *Until November, stay healthy and safe everyone.*

The couple jumped right in and became active with all the activities here in the park. Gloria’s first job was the Welcoming Committee. Wouldn’t you want to be welcomed by her?

Gloria also conducted water aerobics three times a week, called Bingo, arranged travel activities and attended the frequent dances.

In 1984 the park began expanding to the size you see today. They wanted to expand the clubhouse and Gloria was on a committee to add the main room you see today. After visiting several parks, they were advised not to have the room as is in other parks with the dance floor at one end and all the seating at the other. So that is how we got a room with the dance floor in the middle and seating on both sides.

The park has had bazaars since the mid 80’s and has always had Pot-lucks and Bingo.

Howard passed away in 1990, but Gloria remains and after 37 years wants to always be a resident in what she calls, “The best park around!”



## *“Here I Am to Save the Day”*

*By Irwin Lengel*

*“Here I am to save the day”* were the words that the superhero mouse character Mighty Mouse (created by the Terry toons studio for 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox) used to say when arriving on the scene of one catastrophe or another.



*Ever dream of being a superhero, whether it be human or otherwise?* Let's think about dreams for a minute. I once read that if you dream about eating prunes, you might be expecting to change residences soon. Hmm, never thought about that type of change in relation to eating prunes. Now, were someone to tell me that if you dream about eating prunes, you might be expecting to change your pants soon, well, that I would buy. Okay, on with the scenario for you to picture – there may be some truth to the correlation between eating prunes and changing residences, but I'll get to that in a moment.

Suppose for a moment that your wife decides that she is no longer happy with the house and location you are living at. Over coffee one morning she tells you that she wants to sell the house and move to another location. What do you do? You say as we guys usually do: “Yes, dear!” and decide to place your home on the market. Before you can do that though, you must get the house ship-shape so that it sells quickly enabling you to get the price you are seeking. How is



that done? Well, you spend days on end getting it beautiful and showcase perfect. Walla – time for an ‘Open House’.

Fast forward to the day of the Open House to show off your masterpiece. But let me back up here a bit, in all your stress and worrying about getting the house ready, you also become constipated! What? How else was I going to get back to the prunes? It could happen! Putting everything else out of your mind, and concentrating on your constipation problem, you wake up early and decide to have a bunch of prunes (a bunch means more than you usually eat at one setting). In your haste though not only did you forget how fast prunes work, you also forgot that today was that little thing of an “Open House!” What can I say, so your mind isn't as good as it used to be.

Okay, so you are in the house checking last minute details when Oops! Got the picture? I don't think so but read on. When your wife enters about 45 minutes prior to the start of the Open House you look at her with a sheepish grin and say: *“Oops, sorry darling”* as she looks at the stain the size and shape of Vermont on the carpet. You look at her and say: “Guess we had better call the real estate agent and cancel the open house for today.” Remember what I said about changing pants versus changing residences!

Seeing the subject of this story started out with dreaming. let's think about other dreams and what they may represent. It has been said that dreaming about a camel symbolizes *survival*. Now camels have been known to spit (it really isn't that they spit – what they do is more like throw up. It's done to surprise, distract, or bother whatever the camel feels is threatening it.) Referring to the opening of this story, for me the most threatening thing bothering me would be me thinking about my *survival* .... you know.... wondering whether or not I would survive my wife's

*(Continued next page)*



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## **IRWIN PONDER\$, *continued***

wrath after seeing the stain on the carpet at such an inopportune time.

Moving on – there have been times I have also dreamt of not being able to find my house. I guess if one were to check with a dream therapist, they would say dreams of this nature might mean that I am uncertain about my life path. Seeing that I am soon going to be 80 years of age, if I am not certain about my life path at this point in my life, I'm doomed anyway so dream on. Okay, so I dream that I cannot find my house and being lost.

Let me tell you a little secret here and it is a secret my wife would be only too willing to attest to. There is some that think I would get lost a block from my house if I did not have a GPS tracker of sorts with me to guide me home. Forget the fact that I may be uncertain about my life path, truth of the matter is I'm uncertain just walking down the street.

They say that if you dream about white goats as opposed to black goats you can expect a lot of good things in the near future – whoopee – what type of good things could a soon-to-be eighty-year-old expect? And what constitutes “near future?”

By now you have probably surmised that if dreaming of white goats bring good things, dreaming about black goats means bad luck, unpleasantness, and problems may come your way. I have no intentions about dreaming about black goats. Same holds true for dreaming about crows as they usually symbolize death, bad luck, and so forth and so on.

I decided to test the theory about black goats and crows, my dream the other night. How did it work? Well, let's just say the next morning I re-visited my

last income tax return to make sure I completed it properly and had this wild, crazy idea to stop buying weekly lottery tickets.

Some people – specifically those who keep diaries and/or journals – tend to write down what they dreamt as soon as they wake up every morning. Why?

Well, for some unknown reason they think that if they write some notes about the dream they will be able to keep the dream vivid in their memory so that you can think about it again before going to sleep the next night in order to experience or remember more of the dream.

I tried that once and won't be doing it again. It took me a long time to even think about going to sleep again. You see, I keep this notepad next to my bed so that I can write down ideas as they come to me either before I go to sleep or quite possibly when I wake to go potty. Seeing that the notebook was available, one morning I made the mistake of writing down the dream I had the night before. When I looked at my notes on the notepad besides my bed, I found I had written something quite disturbing that I wouldn't want to share, nor would I want to revisit.

Here is a hint: I don't want to know what “the picture of a snow shovel, boots, earmuffs, a heavy parka, and a cup of hot chocolate means!”

***Until next time!***

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## April Birthdays



- 2 Ann Laundra
- 7 Larry Woloshyn
- 10 Leon Pocock
- 14 Joe Fortin
- 15 Lizzie Golley  
Bruce Crone
- 18 Cecelia Segreto  
Don Mac Avoy
- 19 Sandra Duerloo
- 20 Duane Wauters
- 21 Lyle Woodworth
- 24 Joseph Boike  
Rudy Jenkins  
Lanny Kaine
- 26 Sue Wilsman
- 27 Kim Barras
- 28 Elaine Rowe  
Hudson  
Tim De Francisco  
Lea Marie Lucas-  
Gearheart

### CARE & CONCERN

**Billie Lindsay Lot 194**

For resident illness,  
hospital stays,  
or passings,  
please contact me at

812-598-4001

## BT TRAVEL NOTES

By Bev Furno, Lot 64

**April 2 Cherry Blossom Festival is canceled.** Small World is working hard to send refund checks....many many trips were canceled. Holly says it may take 30-60 days. They had many deposits out for trips and need some of that money to come back so they can return your money. I trust them completely. Many of you responded to my request for a different mailing address from your check if that was necessary. We will try this trip again next year!

**Dec. 12 The Singing Christmas Trees in Orlando.** Price is \$82 and includes performance, a lovely meal, all taxes and tips including the driver. Full payment is due to Small World Tours no later than August 30th Their address is 503 Small World Drive Haines City, FL. 33844; Phone is 863-420-0156 Hopefully, we can get to the sign-up sheet in clubhouse before leaving for the summer. Please call me if you decide to join us after I've headed north toward the end of April : 810-629-9702 (Michigan).

2021

— **BON VOYAGE!** —



**Jan. 17 - 24 The spectacular Harmony of the Seas from Port Canaveral:** St Juan, St Maarten and Coco Cay, their beautiful private island. For information after I leave, call me in MI or call Cooks Travel Center 863 226 4772. We always have a great time....come and join us. PS He always lets you pay him monthly....no charge.

FLYERS FOR THE ABOVE TRIPS ON SIDE PORCH #64, TOP STEP, TAKE ONE *.May you have a safe and healthy summer.....Bev*

## May Birthdays



- 1 Louis Doughty
- 3 Marlene Kaine  
Sandy Howison  
Joy Nipper
- 4 Gary Lewis
- 6 Wayne Price  
R. Wellington
- 10 Susan Vitello
- 11 Lois Holiman
- 13 Gloria Buehrig  
Candie Pocock  
Anne Seifert
- 15 Gary Gott
- 18 Gordon Steele
- 20 Jim Von Itter
- 21 Jonathan Norrix
- 25 Elba Chirel  
Dale Fisher  
Bob Haw  
Celso Samson
- 26 Dave Woollard  
Lenny Probasco
- 27 Robert Laforest
- 29 Ron Meduski  
Chuck Snavelly
- 30 Rosie Hagarty

*Please contact*

*Alice Murray*

*863- 687-9608*

*if anyone was missed*

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# Love Letters Written from A Trip Never Taken

By Anne Seifert

Being away from my husband, Sam, for 35 days seemed unimaginable, but I had intentionally scheduled back-to-back family and work events, including a trip to Israel, so that I wouldn't be flying back and forth to Ohio.

Previously, I had been separated from Sam for two weeks at a time while training community health workers in other states. He proved that he could survive with less-than-healthy meals, unwashed clothes, and a disorganized house. But this longer separation had me a bit worried: what if he began to enjoy his new bachelorhood?

So, my solution? A love letter prepared ahead for each of the days that I would be gone. I purchased several romantic cards – a few funny ones, too – and pulled out old stationery so that I had enough correspondence. I also bought some small candy treats to include with the letters.



Several weeks before leaving for Ohio, I began to write the letters that I would leave for him. I thought it would be difficult to think of original content for 35 notes, but my pen flowed! Using my Israel trip itinerary, I described what I would be seeing that particular day. *March 12: "Today we are to visit Caesarea. The Roman era beach-lined aqueducts, intact tiered amphitheater, and port ruins give me my first impression of the deep history of this nation."*

As I completed each note, I dated the envelope so that there was a letter for each day in an intentional sequence. Then I filled a large glass bowl with the array of different sizes and colors of cards.

On the day that I left for Ohio, I gave instructions to Sam to only open the letter with the correct date on that day, and not to read ahead. He was surprised at the gesture and, of course, asked how much I had spent on the cards. I reassured him that he was worth it and that I always kept stationary and notecards on hand.

I flew out of Tampa with anticipation about the events that drew me to Ohio: my mother's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the video production of a health series, the trip to Israel, and a week of health worker training.

*March 1, 2020* – Day one of my time away from my husband, and day one of opening the letters.. He opened a note card that included a photo of us taken in a French restaurant in Ybor City. I had written my thoughts about the adventure, a wonderful experience full of humor and delight.

That night I called him to see if he remembered to open the card. He did. He liked it. We talked about the seafood crepes at the restaurant and laughed about the photo taken by a stranger who had just bought the instamatic camera.

And so the days passed, cards were opened, phone calls were frequent. A scrapbook of memories unfolded through the messages, photos, and endearments. *March 14—"We are at the Sea of Galilee where we will board a fishing boat like the one used by the disciples. We are walking almost 5 miles a day as we visit ancient sites."*

*March 15—"Today we visit we visit the caves of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found by a shepherd. I would search all of the caves for you, my treasure . . ."*

However, amidst my life events, national news began to focus more on the spread of COVID-19. My mother's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party was held with only immediate family members at her home. The next day, I worked on the video lessons with health professionals who were alarmed about the virus. I then postponed the upcoming training program.

My last event, the trip to Israel, was still scheduled to leave Tuesday, March 10. It isn't until 12 hours before going to the airport that the Israeli government halted travel into the country for people not quarantined for 14 days. The trip was finally canceled.

I returned to Florida weeks earlier than planned. Still, Sam continued to read the cards that reflected on a trip not taken. The letters ended on March 28. I won't be traveling internationally any time soon, but maybe I should continue writing Sam notes from trips not taken. *"Day 1 from Tahiti, I walk the sandy beach with sweet thoughts of you . . ."*



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# THE BEACON

## April 2020


| Sunday                                                                                                                      | Monday                                                                                                    | Tuesday                      | Wednesday                                                          | Thursday                                                                                           | Friday                                                                                | Saturday               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                           |                              | 1                                                                  | 2                                                                                                  | 3                                                                                     | 4                      |
| PLEASE NOTE: Although regular activities are posted mid-month, all events will not resume until notice from ELS Management. |                                                                                                           |                              |                                                                    |                                                                                                    |                                                                                       |                        |
| 5                                                                                                                           | 6                                                                                                         | 7                            | 8                                                                  | 9                                                                                                  | 10                                                                                    | 11                     |
|                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                           |                              |                                                                    |                                                                                                    |                                                                                       |                        |
| 12                                                                                                                          | 13                                                                                                        | 14                           | 15                                                                 | 16                                                                                                 | 17                                                                                    | 18                     |
| <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>                                                                                                        | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Shuffleboard<br>9 <sup>AM</sup> MAHJONG<br><br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15 <sup>PM</sup> BINGO | 7 <sup>PM</sup> Shuffleboard | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Line Dance<br><br>6 <sup>PM</sup> Mexican Train | 1 <sup>PM</sup> Hand & Foot Cards<br>1 <sup>PM</sup> Crafting<br>5:30 <sup>PM</sup> POTLUCK DINNER | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Beginner's Line Dance                                              | 8 <sup>AM</sup> Coffee |
| 19                                                                                                                          | 20                                                                                                        | 21                           | 22                                                                 | 23                                                                                                 | 24                                                                                    | 25                     |
| 1 <sup>PM</sup> Hand & Foot Cards                                                                                           | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Shuffleboard<br>9 <sup>AM</sup> MAHJONG<br><br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15 <sup>PM</sup> BINGO | 7 <sup>PM</sup> Shuffleboard | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Line Dance<br><br>6 <sup>PM</sup> Mexican Train | 1 <sup>PM</sup> Hand & Foot Cards<br>1 <sup>PM</sup> Crafting                                      | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Beginner's Line Dance                                              | 8 <sup>AM</sup> Coffee |
| 26                                                                                                                          | 27                                                                                                        | 28                           | 29                                                                 | 30                                                                                                 |  |                        |
| 1 <sup>PM</sup> Hand & Foot Cards                                                                                           | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Shuffleboard<br>9 <sup>AM</sup> MAHJONG<br><br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15 <sup>PM</sup> BINGO | 7 <sup>PM</sup> Shuffleboard | 8:30 <sup>AM</sup> Line Dance<br><br>6 <sup>PM</sup> Mexican Train | 1 <sup>PM</sup> Hand & Foot Cards<br>1 <sup>PM</sup> Crafting                                      |                                                                                       |                        |



Happy Easter! Happy Spring! Be Happy!

# THE BEACON

## May 2020

| Sunday                                                                                            | Monday                                                            | Tuesday            | Wednesday                                | Thursday                                                                   | Friday                                                                                | Saturday   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
|                                                                                                   |                                                                   |                    | 1                                        | 2                                                                          | 3                                                                                     | 4          |
| PLEASE NOTE: Regular activities are listed, but will not resume until notice from ELS Management. |                                                                   |                    | 8:30AM<br>Line Dance                     | 1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards<br>1PM <u>Crafting</u>                            | 8:30AM<br>Beginner's<br>Line Dance                                                    | 8AM Coffee |
| 5                                                                                                 | 6                                                                 | 7                  | 8                                        | 9                                                                          | 10                                                                                    | 11         |
| 1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards                                                                          | 8:30AM Shuffleboard<br>9AM MAHIONG<br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15PM BINGO | 7PM Shuffleboard   | 8:30 AM Line Dance<br>6 PM Mexican Train | <u>Ladies' Luncheon</u><br>1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards<br>1PM <u>Crafting</u> | 8:30AM<br>Beginner's<br>Line Dance                                                    | 8AM Coffee |
| 12                                                                                                | 13                                                                | 14                 | 15                                       | 16                                                                         | 17                                                                                    | 18         |
| <u>EASTER SUNDAY</u>                                                                              | 8:30AM Shuffleboard<br>9AM MAHIONG<br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15PM BINGO | 7PM HOA<br>Meeting | 8:30 AM Line Dance<br>6 PM Mexican Train | 1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards<br>1PM <u>Crafting</u><br>5:30 PM<br>POTLUCK      | 8:30AM<br>Beginner's<br>Line Dance                                                    | 8AM Coffee |
| 19                                                                                                | 20                                                                | 21                 | 22                                       | 23                                                                         | 24                                                                                    | 25         |
| 1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards                                                                          | 8:30AM Shuffleboard<br>9AM MAHIONG<br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15PM BINGO | 7PM Shuffleboard   | 8:30 AM Line Dance<br>6 PM Mexican Train | 1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards<br>1PM <u>Crafting</u>                            | 8:30AM<br>Beginner's<br>Line Dance                                                    | 8AM Coffee |
| 26                                                                                                | 27                                                                | 28                 | 29                                       | 30                                                                         |  |            |
| 1PM Hand &<br>Foot                                                                                | 8:30AM Shuffleboard<br>9AM MAHIONG<br>1 PM Bridge<br>5:15PM BINGO | 7PM Shuffleboard   | 8:30 AM Line Dance<br>6 PM Mexican Train | 1PM Hand &<br>Foot Cards<br>1PM <u>Crafting</u>                            |                                                                                       |            |

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## *B.T. Briefs*

## **Bowling Group Plans Next Season**

By Carol Umenstetter

Bowling ended a few weeks early, but we enjoyed the time we had! Candi and I are getting the prize money out and hopefully by the time you read this, it will in your hot little hands.

Helen Roberge has offered to help next year IF she is able to bowl. Candi still needs one other person to help. Please consider doing this.

Candi has some new ideas and will put up a sign-up sheet with information to join our ranks. *See you next year in the alleys!*

- ☆ **Ladies Luncheons** for April and May are up in the air. Information will be posted on the bulletin board when we can make the plans.
- ☆ **Welcome Wagon** visits will resume when social distancing guidelines are no longer in use.
- ☆ **BT Directory:** If you have any changes or any new “E” mail addresses during the year, please contact Dolly Lengel, E-mail- dollyll@aol.com or call or text her at 863-608-1369.
- ☆ **How are you surviving the COVID-19 Pandemic?** Email comments to co-editor, Anne Seifert, at anneseifert1@aol.com
- ☆ **Photos of Beacon Terrace Community “non-events” welcome** for submission to the BEACON. Send to anneseifert1@aol.com

## *Northern Reflections*

# **The Joys of a BT Home Kitchen Renovation**

By Donna Hodgson

Our kitchen had an island with laminate *held on with masking tape*. Masking tape! There were also cupboards hanging from the ceiling above the island, not to mention, of course, the oh-so- lovely 1984 look. As you all know though... renovations do not always go as planned.

We ordered a new dishwasher, cooktop and vent for above the stove on December 4<sup>th</sup> with a requested delivery of January 10<sup>th</sup>. We then started receiving emails notifying us that our purchase was getting delayed every few days. Yes... several emails telling us our purchase was delayed. A few phone calls, a few visits to the store, and every time we were assured we would get our delivery – it wouldn’t show up.

Needless to say this order was cancelled, and an order placed with an appliance store.

We had ordered a five-burner cooktop. As the hole for this cooktop was about to be cut, we realized that the breaker was only 30 amps: we needed a 40 amp breaker and we needed an 8-gauge wire (not the ten that was currently in place).

An electrician was called and quoted us \$700.00. What, wait! Not gonna happen. My husband, Brad, then talked to the appliance store who said they would take the five-burner cooktop back and sell us a four-burner cook top that took a 30 amp breaker. Perfect.

Three weeks later when the new cooktop arrived, we read the specs to find out the new 4-burner cooktop requires 32 amps - WHICH STILL REQUIRES A 40 AMP BREAKER! You have got to be kidding me! Luckily, our retired electrician friend was here visiting, and he tells us what to buy and replaces the breaker and wiring. Seventy dollars in parts and a dinner at the Outback. Bargain.

We now have our beautiful new island and lovely upper vent with a four-burner cooktop all up to code.

This project was started January 17<sup>th</sup>, completed March 11<sup>th</sup>. The remainder of the kitchen will just have to wait. The new island is perfect.



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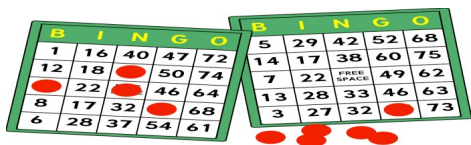
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## BEACON TERRACE ACTIVITIES

### **B-I-N-G-O**



Bingo, like many other activities, is currently taking a break, but, once we can return, it will remain very popular with many of our neighbors and others from local communities. By the time we can return, many of our seasonal players will be gone, so I expect a slight drop in attendance. There will be room for more new people playing each week, so come early to get the best seats. Each session contains an Odd/Even Jackpot, which provides a hefty jackpot prize creating a lot of excitement and interest. Everyone has a great time, so gather your friends and join us.

Once we can return, Bingo will be played every Monday evening in the Community Center. Bingo cards are purchased from 5:00 to 6:15pm with games starting at 6:30 until about 9 pm. Ice cream goodies are offered for donation during the intermission.

With many games and multiple jackpots, you could be a big winner!

See you there!

*Don Kohnke, Walt Swink*

### **Corn Hole**

**Don Kohnke #13**

(grandpadn@gmail.com)

With the advent of the current health crisis, Corn Hole will be discontinued for the foreseeable future. Once we can move forward, I will place an interest signup sheet on the bulletin board, so if you wish to play every week, please take a moment to sign up.

### **Weekly Activities:**

## ***Postponed until Further Notice***

**PLEASE WAIT UNTIL E.L.S. Management reopens BT public gathering areas BEFORE calling the listed numbers about availability of activities.**

#### **Sunday**

**1:00 PM Hand & Foot\***

#### **Monday**

**8:30 AM Shuffleboard\***, Scott Mitchell, 570-815-1339

**9:00 AM Mah-Jong\***, Nancy Feligno, 315-945-5679

**1 PM Bridge\***, Mike Lowery, 863-688-6526

**5:30 PM Bingo\***, Don Kohnke, 863-397-3836

#### **Tuesday**

**7:00 PM Shuffleboard\***, Scott Mitchell, 570-815-1339

#### **Wednesday**

**8:30 AM Line Dancing\***, Dolly Lengel, 863-608-1369

**6:00 PM Mexican Train\***

#### **Thursday**

**Men's Golf**, Lyle Hagerty, 863-682-1038

**1:00 PM Cards- Hand and Foot\***

**1:00 PM Crafts\***, Carol Nash, 863-337-5167

**1:00 PM 2nd Thursdays, Ladies Luncheon**, Ann Snively  
863-644-4627

**5:30 PM POTLUCK**, 3rd Thursday of month.

#### **Friday:**

**8:30 AM Beginner Line Dancing\***, Dolly Lengel, 863-608-1369

#### **Saturday**

**8:00 AM Coffee Hour\***

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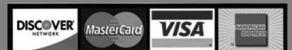


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- 04-10-19 Angela Rivellino #217  
 07-20-19 Barb Levensgood #157  
 09-5-19 Al Rivelinno #217  
 12-7-19 Ray Miller #1  
 01-17-20 Lynn Barnett #106  
 02-7-20 Betty Ertel #172  
 02-16-20 Ray LaForest #17  
 03-15-20 Wayne Huffman #53

This column lists our friends who have died this past year. The list is active on a 12 month rotating basis.

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Group Gatherings</b><br><b>Sleep Overs</b><br><b>Playdates</b><br><b>Concerts</b><br><b>Theatre Outings</b><br><b>Athletic Events</b><br><b>Crowded Retail Stores</b><br><b>Malls</b><br><b>Workouts in Gyms</b><br><b>Visitors in your House</b><br><b>Non-essential workers in your house</b><br><b>Mass Transit Systems</b> | <b>Visit a local Restaurant</b><br><b>Visit Grocery Store</b><br><b>Get Take Out</b><br><b>Pick up Medications</b><br><b>Play Tennis in a Park</b><br><b>Visiting the Library</b><br><b>Church Services</b><br><b>Traveling</b> | <b>Take a Walk</b><br><b>Go for a Hike</b><br><b>Yard Work</b><br><b>Play in your Yard</b><br><b>Clean out a Closet</b><br><b>Read a Good Book</b><br><b>Listen to Music</b><br><b>Cook a Meal</b><br><b>Family Game Night</b><br><b>Go for a Drive</b><br><b>Group Video Chats</b><br><b>Stream a favorite show</b><br><b>Check on a Friend</b><br><b>Check on Elderly Neighbor</b> |

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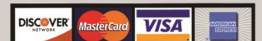
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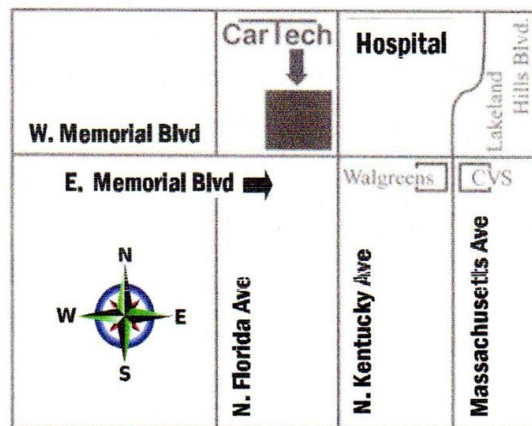
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**MISSION:** To promote, provide and encourage healthy, beneficial and enjoyable living conditions for the benefit of all residents.

#### OBJECTIVES:

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**—Promote social activities, bingo, dinners, games, educational events and general good fellowship for all residents.

**SUPPORT GROUPS**—Cooperate and support Beacon Terrace chapter of the Federation of Mobile Home Owners (FMHO) of Florida and the Lakeland Inter Park Council (LIC) for the benefit of all residents.

**PARK FACILITIES**—Promote and encourage the proper care of all facilities in the Park by all residents.

**RULES and REGULATIONS**—Establish reasonable rules and or regulations for all activities in the best interest of all residents and such rules are not to conflict with those of the Park management.

**PROBLEM RESOLUTION**—Promote cooperation between residents and park management where differences arise and seek agreed resolution. Represent residents to seek proper resolution.

Approved by HOA Board of Directors  
February 2013



### 2020 HOA Officers

**President**—Don Kohnke  
**Vice President**—Sherry DeFrancisco  
**Secretary**—Bonnie Irwin-Pocock  
**Treasurer**—Chuck Snavelly  
**Directors**—  
 Hiram Chirel, Mike Olive,  
 Anne Seifert



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