

Volume 3 Issue 1

Jan 2021



LAUREL ESTATES 55+ COMMUNITY, N FORT MYERS, FL

The Laurel Ledger

Board of Directors Meetings

Unless otherwise notified, the monthly Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse from November through April.

Everyone is welcome. Attendance is the best way to find out what is going on and to express your concerns and recommendation for our community. There will be a time toward the end of the meeting for questions and comments.

A Note from your Editor....

It is been rather difficult to communicate with the residents here in the park if information is not shared with me so that I can include it in the newsletter. If it is a last minute activity, we have a letterboard outside the clubhouse to share such information. Sylvia V. is in charge of the letterboard. It seems like some activities are only open to a select few. It has been a very lonely year as it is.

Every newsletter includes deadlines for articles and when the next news letter will be published. From now on, it will be a permanent fixture in the newsletter.

Happy New Year

I have seen better days, but I also have seen worse. I do not have all my wants, but I do have all my needs. I woke up with a few aches and pains, but I woke up! My life may not be perfect, but I thank GOD it is good.



Laurel Estates Lot Owners Inc

2021 Annual Meeting

What you need to know



The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Laurel Estates Lot Owners will take place on January 21, 2021. However there will be some changes that everyone needs to know about due to the Covid - 19 and limited seating in the clubhouse. The clubhouse is limited to 50 persons, for these meetings, so in order to handle the typical number of attendees there will be 2 meetings with identical agendas, one meeting at 5:00 PM and another at 7:00 PM. You must sign up in the clubhouse to indicate which meeting you will attend. You must sign up to attend. Sign up sheets will be in the clubhouse after January 7, 2021. Chairs will be spaced 6 feet apart and masks are a requirement, persons from the same household may sit with each other.

In order to be a member of the Laurel Estates Lot Owners and vote, you must have paid your dues by December 31, 2020 for the 2020 year. Dues will be collected at the meetings on January 21, 2021 for the 2021 year.

Happy and Healthy New Year to each and everyone!!

Your Laurel Estates Lot Owners Board - Tom Clark, Reggie Blough, Sherri Hinchman, Gail Goad, Eugene Senecal, Jim Rudolph, Myrna Stroble and Jon Verrill

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - If you have an activity and/or event that you would like included in the newsletter, please be aware that any contact information you furnish will be included both in the printed document as well as any digitized (online) copies of the newsletter. Your submission indicates your acceptance of the above.

Happy New Year!

Party: 12/31/2020 at 8:00 pm
 Location: outside on Indianwood, between Breezewood and Deerfield.
 Music and seating provided
 Bring your own drinks and snacks.
 SIGNUP SHEET IN CLUBHOUSE.



Kenny's Crafts

\$7.00/ class



- 1/5 - chalkboard fan blade
- 1/12 - Shell pictures
- 1/19 - Linda's painting
- 1/26 - Valentine picture





We would like to get poker started in January. As of now, we have 3 interested people. We need at least one more. If interested, please give Janice I. a call at 239-747-3009.

6:00 on Monday evenings

Community Yard Sale



- January 30th between 8:00 am and Noon or 1:00pm (will be decided as date gets closer). Tables are available for rent, for a small fee of \$5.00

They will be delivered to your house on Friday evening or early Saturday morning. Tables will be collected immediately after the sale. Setup and Clean up of your items is your responsibility. There will be no special trash pickup afterward. If you need a table please email Sherri at slhinchman@gmail.com

or call at 856-776-9151. We plan to sell breakfast items during the morning at an outdoor coffee/donut bar at the club house. Sharon Babcock has graciously agreed to bake her famous rolls. If anyone is interested in cooking a boxed lunch for the park to sell during the lunch hour please let me know at the email or number listed previously. Items like hotdogs, hamburgers or maybe sloppy joes. You make the menu. Plenty of residents will be available to help, we just need a chairperson for this task.

See you there!



HELP FOR OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

Ande Smith with North Fort Myers VFW Auxiliary is still clipping coupons for our-military families overseas.

Please take what need from the paper and donate the rest if you can. There is a plastic box in the club house on the shelf or call me to pick up from your house if you can't get to the club house.

Thank you for your continued support . You can reach me at 239-656-2821 or 2743 Breezewood Drive.

It's not what you eat between Christmas and New Year's that matters—it's what you eat between New Year's and Christmas that counts. ~William A. Canada, in Boca Raton News, 1983 December 25th

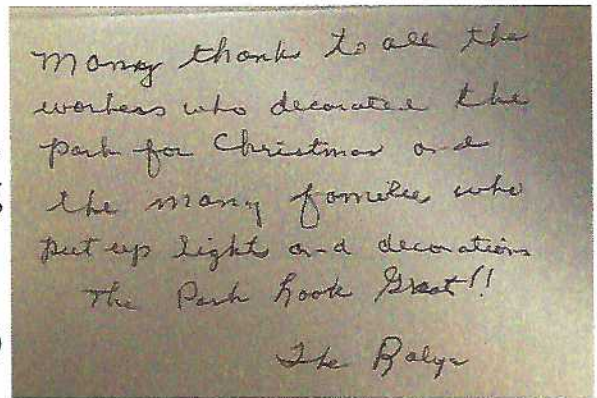
He who breaks a resolution is a weakling; He who makes one is a fool. ~F.M. Knowles, quoted in *Laughter, the Best Medicine: Holidays: Ho, Ho, Ha! The Merriest Jokes, Quotes, and Cartoons* by the editors Editors of Reader's Digest, 2012

*Cheers to a
Happy New Year*



LE Christmas Blvd.

A great big "Thank You" to all who got together to decorate the "Boulevard" for the holidays this year. Jim and Betty Rose got the ball rolling as soon as they got back from the northern clime. They were helped by their elves - Rick and Carol Todd, Bob and Sandy Routzahn, Ray and Walena Holman, Gary Grooms, Gary Thibodeau and Ed and Linda Raetz. I, especially, like the way the lights and the cut out characters and the Nativity were arranged this year. Thank you all who helped.



In addition to my E-mail, phone, and text, you will find a basket on our carport for you to leave communications for me for the newsletter or anything else, park related.
Sherry Stover

Calendar Word Scramble

1. wyđ eyena say

2. Phapieyn

3. vdtalyen naise

4. sat sat pydty

5. mađo yonc eci

6. yammorei lad

7. yald gaf

8. boy drala

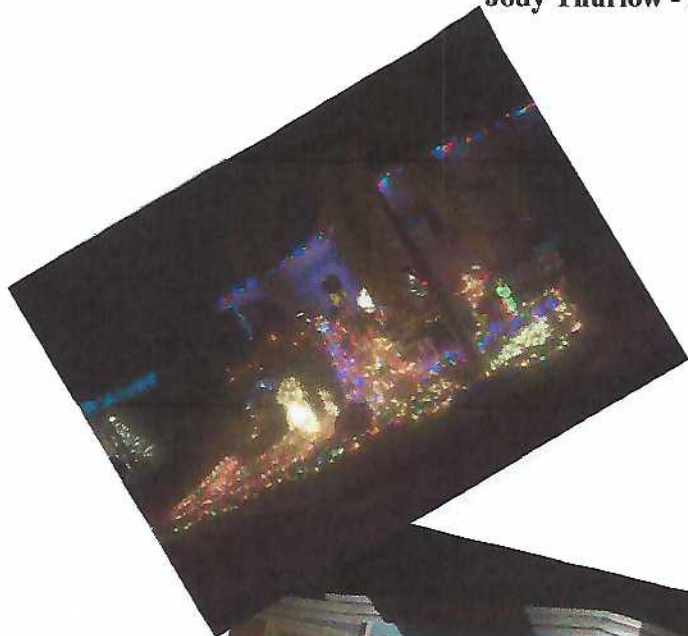
9. pro pik muy

10. now leleha

CHRISTMAS LIGHT CONTEST



1st place - Paul Lozier &
Jody Thurlow - Indianwood



2nd place - Earl and
Flora Harvey -
Teakwood Blvd



3rd place - Steve
Pomeroy - Deerfield

The Board of Directors would like to thank everyone who decorated to make our park look so festive.



Michelon	Joseph	6
Kinslow	Rosemary	9
Reid	Bonnie	10
Kozzarek	Theresa	11
Borteler	Zero "Zeke"	12
Forsythe	Jerry	12
Suhr	Sue	14
Barber	Linda	15
Fellows	Mary Louise	18
Swick	Jack	22
Routzahn	Bob	23
Norris	Philip	24
Gwinn	Norma	27
Mitchell	Carl	29
Reid	Mel	30
Jacobs	Debra	31



First batch of Christmas Cards to be delivered around the Park.



Pamela Green

2020 will likely go down as one of the most dreadful years (*annus horribilis*) in living memory globally, nationally and personally. Covid 19 has taken more than 300,000 loved ones from their families. My mother (Pamela) was already suffering significantly from lung issues related to her IPF (Idiopathic Pulmonary fibrosis), back at the beginning of the New Year we were all waiting in anticipation of mother final qualifying for and being able to accept a lung transplant. Her small stature should not lead one to believe my mother was not strong nor that over her life she would make one of the largest and best imprints in this world.

I often referred to my mother and in fact introduced her to people who had not had the good fortune of meeting her as the nicest person I have ever had the good fortune to meet. Of course, as her son, I am sure many dismissed my comments as those of a biased child. This however, as those of you who got to know her was not the case. She truly was one of the nicest people I and many others have ever met.

As the snowbirds have returned to Florida on their annual migration, there is unfortunately many that have not made the trip and mother is one of those. Her partner (husband and best friend) Mike has this year made the trip alone. I do know how much they both enjoyed their time in Florida and in particular with all those to whom I write this note. I write to thank you all for your kind words, cards and heart felt sympathies on behalf of all the family and also my mother. I know she continues to look down on us all and in particular Mike as she continues to do what she did her whole life, that of putting others ahead of herself.

I close this letter of thanks with two requests, remember Pamela and take solace in the fact the only reason we miss her so much is because we were so fortunate to have met and spent time with her and secondly, please look after Mike on behalf of Pamela and all of her and his family. He truly was the best thing that ever happened to her and someone who today holds a very special place in all my family's heart, and he tries to fill an unfillable hole in all our lives.

I truly hope 2021 is better than this year and again thank you all for your kind words, thoughts and prayer.

Nick & Simon, Fran, Ben and the rest of Pamela's family, Mike, Michaela, Louie and Rocco.



I don't believe there is anyone who would challenge the thought that 2020 has been brutal due to restrictions and elimination or postponement of various activities. In line with that, I took a look back into the archives of the Laurel Estates Newsletters in an effort to see not only the activities that have had to be discontinued as a result of the virus but the activities that have been discontinued over the years. While doing so, two things struck me: first, normal holiday activities such as decorating the park and luminaries are not scheduled and second, there are some activities that have been completely discontinued over the years.

The reason I'm writing this is that some of the people who take care of these activities are retiring and some could be reinstated. Activities in the park have dwindled somewhat over the years and COVID has pretty much decimated what is left. Following is what I believe is the status of past and present activities within the community:

- **Eyeglasses - for Lions Club eye care program.**
- **Pop Tabs - for Ronald McDonald House - Ronald McDonald not accepting until January, 2021**
- **Campbell Soup Labels - for Shriners' Hospital**
- **Lost and found - in clubhouse but needs "tidied up"**
- **Cards; Poker, Euchre, Pinochle, Hand & Foot - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Computer Classes - INACTIVE**
- **Saturday Morning Café - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID - Scheduled to resume 1/2/2021**
- **Craft Club - Tuesdays at NOON - (Returning December 2020)**
- **Potluck Suppers - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Laurel Book Club - INACTIVE**
- **Pancake Breakfast - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **AARP Safe Driving - - INACTIVE**
- **Mah Jongg - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Dances - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Red Hat - DISBANDED**
- **Pot Luck Lunches - INACTIVE - as near as I can tell, these were held once per month and were meant to receive suggestions and plan upcoming activities**
- **CERT - INACTIVE**
- **Luminaries - Status for 2020 is Unknown**
- **Birthday Parties - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Blood Drive ACTIVE BUT EARL HARVEY IS RETIRING**
- **Food Drive ACTIVE BUT EARL HARVEY IS RETIRING**
- **Cookie Exchange - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Christmas Decorating in Park - Status for 2020 unknown**
- **Bible Study - - INACTIVE**

- **Ice Cream Social - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Potato Bake - INACTIVE**
- **Chili Dinner - INACTIVE**
- **Fun Golf - Mondays 9:30AM**
- **Bingo - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID**
- **Newsletter - PUBLISHED MONTHLY NOVEMBER TO APRIL INCLUSIVE (COPIES IN CLUBHOUSE)**
- **Trash to Treasure / Silent Auction / Carport Sale - Carport Sale is scheduled for 1/30/2021**
- **Pool exercise - Monday through Friday at 9:00AM**
- **Shuffleboard - NO LEAGUE DUE TO COVID, HOWEVER, THERE IS PRACTICE ON MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

The deadline for all articles for the newsletter is 2:00 on the 24th of the month prior to the issue date. Example: March newsletter - article deadline is the 24th of February. Printed on 25th of February.

This year, 2020, has been exceptionally difficult and presented many challenges, but in anticipation of and preparation for a COVID Vaccine and a winding down of restrictions, this is a perfect time to plan for a resumption of normalcy. The reality is that, simply through attrition, sale of homes and the passing of residents, there is a need for both new people to be responsible for the various activities as well as a central person to coordinate all the necessary efforts.

There is not a doubt, at least in my mind, that we stand to lose many of the activities that make us a community and we will then become no more than a trailer park. There's no doubt that it's better to ANTICIPATE and ACT than REACT to the current conditions. Also, it should be noted that I have no doubt that I have missed some activities but this is, at least, a starting point. Tom Clark

It has been our honor to partner with you to provide programs

that build your church community and foster connection. We are incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to capture beautiful images of families in houses of worship across the county over many years. Hearing the stories from you and your families about how photography can bring communities together, bring happiness in times of joy, and provide comfort in times of sorrow has been an incredible privilege for our company and for our dedicated team of photographers.

Unfortunately, due to the tremendous continued and unforeseen impact of COVID-19 on our business and our community, Lifetouch Church Photography has permanently stopped our operations. While we are no longer photographing new church programs going forward, we are committed to finishing production on your church directory and *will deliver it to you no later than the end of January.*

As you may know, we made the difficult but necessary decision to temporarily pause our Church Photography programs in March and again in August. Despite the best efforts of this team and amazing

Photo Directory Update

partnership with communities of faith across the country, the ongoing impacts caused by COVID-19 and shelter-in-place mandates have been Insurmountable.

While we must close Lifetouch Church Photography, we will continue to photograph in schools and in preschools where our services remain critical to providing official documentation, like student IDs. We also continue to operate JC Penney Portraits by Lifetouch, where we are happy to capture life's moments for your family following extensive safety protocols.

If you have any questions about your directories that are in-process in our facilities or need to update shipping information, please email LCDDesign@Lifetouch.com.

Thank you for your partnership over the 40 years Lifetouch has been in the Church Photography business. We wish you and your community all the best as you continue to navigate through these uncharted waters, and in the future.

Lifetouch