



Volume 2, Issue 10

A Newsletter Covering Life In The Lakes

October, 2024



Orange You Glad It's Fall? By Elise Ross

I am enthusiastically welcoming Fall! Summer was HOT, HOT, HOT!! Thank goodness for our gym and pool which kept me moving and out of the heat. Now I can return to walking at sunrise! While I do miss the temporary magnificence of leaves changing color up North, I very much appreciate seeing green lawns and bushes as well as trees that provide shade year round. I am "not happy" though that sunrise is getting later and later with each passing day. Since June 20th, over a half hour of daylight is already gone!

Fall brings the end of televised golf tournaments and the beginning of football in my house. If you're a golfer, you know Scottie Sheffler had quite the year. He won \$62 million and brought the Olympic Gold Metal home to the USA (Xander Schauffele brought home the Silver). Fall means John can once again root for his Chicago Bears and "hold his breath" that the Yankees make it to the World Series. As a native New Englander, I root for the Patriots & Red Sox.

Fall is refreshing and means I can once again: enjoy an occasional round of golf; hike the Port St. Lucie preserves; reconnect with snowbird friends; attend performances at McAlpin Fine Arts Center; and savor a pumpkin muffin with a cup of pumpkin spice coffee.

In closing, I want to extend a personal thank you to Kim Stapf for her contributions to The Lakes Life. Her ideas & puzzles made each edition interesting. Your ideas for potential articles are always welcomed. Please send to:

newse ditor lathoa@gmail.com



Home Painting Program Update

By Greg Snider

A first step in developing a painting program was to create a task force to suggest a paint company, create specifications for contractors to follow, provide a document for all homeowners to use to prepare their home for painting, identify qualified paint contractors to bid on the project that will be analyzed by the Board and finally, to work with the paint company, their distributor and the selected contractor to weekly inspect the work in progress.

The painting task force completed the first step in the painting program of selecting a paint company to recommend to the Board for approval. Major paint companies were interviewed and the result was to recommend Benjamin Moore as the paint company. That recommendation was formally approved by the Board at its August meeting.

The decision was based on their experience in providing a total team approach comprised of working directly with the chosen contractor, the paint distributor and the HOA to insure a successful program. Benjamin Moore will provide their own local paint color consultant to suggest alternative paint colors (as requested by the resident survey).

The next step of the task force is to meet with Benjamin Moore and their local distributor, Regal Paint Center (located on St. Lucie West), in order to review the job specifications for both homeowners and paint contractors. Several paint contractors (list provided by Benjamin Moore) will be asked to provide a list of recent paint projects in order to research job quality.

Future tasks include completing a scope of color suggestions, arranging a method for real world renderings for homeowners to view and providing a method for voting on these color suggestions. Please remember that the choice of color the homeowner chooses can be the original color or a color that the consultant suggests that compliments the original.

Cheryl Robinson

Generosity Touches Hearts & Changes Lives

In a world often marked by challenges and uncertainties, acts of generosity stand out as beacons of hope, inspiring us and spreading good far and wide. Such is the case with Cheryl Robinson, a beloved figure in our community, whose recent display of generosity has touched the lives of many in need.

Cheryl Robinson, known for her quiet demeanor and kind heart, recently undertook a mission to support "The Source," a local charitable organization in Vero Beach that helps the homeless and those in need get back on their feet. The Source provides everything from food to clothing, counseling services, showers, job training and a safe place to escape the heat. Cheryl generously donated funds to help purchase a "Dignity Bus" which will serve as an overnight shelter for the homeless.



The impact of Cheryl's generosity has been profound. Those who have benefited from services provided by The Source's kindness speak not only of the assistance received but also of the emotional support and hope that they have brought into their lives. I would like to add that the charitable gift was dedicated in honor and memory of Cheryl's late husband Tim and her son Adam. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new bus was held August 28th in Vero Beach.

It's not about what was given; it's about the care and compassion shown. Cheryl Robinson has truly made a difference and reminds us that in times of uncertainty, the human spirit shines brightest. Through acts of kindness, big and small, we can build a stronger, kinder community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive and no one is left behind. Cheryl has shown us the way...

...and I am proud to call her friend!

Florida Fun Facts

Designated in 1981, the alligator is Florida's official State Reptile. It symbolizes the extensive untamed wilderness and swampland found throughout our state. There are over 1.25 million of them in Florida, which is why it is often said: "if there is a freshwater body of water, you can bet there's a gator in it."

The Everglades National Park is the only natural ecosystem in the entire world where fresh-water alligators and salt-water crocodiles coexist.



The oldest city in the United States is St. Augustine, Florida founded in 1565 by the Spaniards.

Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon first cited our peninsula in 1513. He named the green and floral territory "la Pascua Florida" which means "Festival of Flowers."

Don't bother digging for dinosaur bones in Florida. During the dinosaur age, the Florida peninsula was entirely underwater. It did not exist as a land mass.

Florida is the flattest state in America. Its mean elevation is only 100 feet above sea level. Its highest point, Britton Hill is only 345 feet above sea level. That's the lowest high point of any state in America.

Florida produces 75 percent of the United States supply of Citrus. You could call Florida the capital of Vitamin C. And Florida is second only to Brazil in the global production of orange juice.

Florida has more golf courses than any other state in America; and Palm Beach County has more golf courses than any other county in Florida. Which is probably why the national headquarters of the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) is located on PGA Blvd. in Palm Beach Gardens.





Layout and Design: Thomas Klein

Staff Writer: Carolyn Hammer

Once Again It's That Time Of Year



By Carolyn Snider

Well, here it is, October 2024 and the beginning of our drive to show our appreciation to all our hardworking contractors.

To all our new neighbors and as a reminder to those who have lived in The Lakes for a while, every year your Landscape Committee members ask that you donate just \$10 (or more!) so that we can provide a nice lunch and gift card or cash to more than 40 contractors. This includes landscape, irrigation, security, etc. With any proceeds left over, we then serve a pizza lunch periodically throughout the year.

Last year, 26.92 percent of homeowners donated. Let's see if we can hit the 30 percent mark this year! How can you donate? You are several options:

- 1. Deposit your check (made out to Carolyn Snider) or cash into the box in the Clubhouse Mail Room.
- 2. Mail your check to: Carolyn at 12125 SW Keating Dr., Port St. Lucie, FL 34987.
- 3. Hand deliver it to her at the above address.

This year's luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11th. Donations are gratefully accepted up until that time.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Cruise News 2025

By Mollie Adams

Reservations for our January 2025 cruise are coming along splendidly. For those that have inquired and are still interested, I encourage you to contact me ASAP. At last count there are only a few Deluxe Oceanview and Balcony rooms still available.



Our 8 day cruise will be leaving on January 19th, 2025 aboard the beautiful MSC Sea*shore*. Check out the cruise flier on Facebook. I still have registration forms. If you would like one, please contact me. And if you are still up north for the

summer, I will send the form up to you.

All bookings must be made and fully paid for by October 15th. For more info. contact Mollie at:

madamsdec77@gmail.com







Our Annual Budget Preparation Is Underway

As we are approaching the end of our fiscal year, The Lakes HOA - Finance Committee, Property Manager, and Board of Directors - are diligently preparing our 2025 annual budget. This crucial process ensures that we continue to maintain and enhance the quality of our community while managing our resources effectively.

Our future budget preparation involves a thorough review of current financials, anticipated expenditures,

and planning for future needs. This includes evaluating costs for essential services such as landscaping, pool maintenance, security services, as well as any potential upgrades or improvements to our shared spaces. Additionally, when determining Reserve contributions, we will take



into consideration the recent Reserve Study so that our "percent funded" is maintained at an acceptable level.

Key Points To Note:

- The budget draft is a continuous process and undergoes updates as we conduct additional analysis and as additional information becomes known (e.g., contract renewals).
- Once the budget is finalized, a detailed summary will be distributed to all homeowners, outlining the key allocations and any changes from the previous year, and, as well, the proposed quarterly assessments.
- Our aim is to have The Lakes 2025 Budget approved by the first week in November, allowing us to implement any required changes by the start of the new fiscal year.

Lakes at Tradition Financial Accounts Info

Rene & Associates, PA, CPA 550 Heritage Drive, Suite 180 Jupiter, FL 33458 (561) 626-8876



Email: lathoafee@gmail.com www.renecpa.com

Community Events

Thanksgiving Food Drive Is November 1-7





The Lakes Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit The Treasure Coast Food Bank is slated for November 1st thru November 7th.

A donation box will be placed in the Clubhouse Mail Room. Residents are encouraged to donate nonperishable, unexpired food items in the boxes which will then be collected and donated to the Food Bank to benefit less fortunate families at Thanksgiving.

Please donate things like: rice, beans, pasta, sauces, jelly, crackers, granola bars, cereal, canned items, etc.

Thank You Lakes Residents For Your Generosity

COF Halloween Party Is October 26th

The 4th annual Circle of Friends Halloween Bash is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th at 7pm in the Clubhouse. Come party with your neighbors and make new friends. Costumes are encouraged (you could win



best costume). There will be a pot luck menu and live entertainment.

Open to all Lakes residents and their guests. Please RSVP with a dish signup at:

circleoffriendspsl@gmail.com

Before the evening ends, a Happy Halloween will be had by all!



Veterans Celebration And Luncheon Will Be November 11th

By Ken Perlman

Every year, The Lakes at Tradition recognizes all veterans who are residents of our community. The theme for this year's event will be "A Legacy Of Loyalty And Service."



We will have a parade through the streets and a luncheon on Monday,

November 11th at the Lakes Clubhouse. Veterans Day is the day to thank and honor all those who have served honorably in the military during both war or peace time.

It is a day intended to thank veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are important and to recognize that all those who have served have sacrificed and done their duty to our country.

Further information will be forthcoming on the specifics of the event. Veterans of The Lakes, please insure the office is informed of your service by contacting Ingrid in the Lakes office at: *Ingrid.sarmiento@fsresidential.com*







"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but rather, by the seeds you plant." - Robert Louis Stevenson

Summer Mah Jong Party

By Chris Bornstein

I have lived in The Lakes for 10 years but just learned Mah Jongg last year. I was petrified! I thought, "I will never be able to do this". Well, I did it. There is something about holding those cool tiles in my hand and waiting for that one unique tile that will allow me to call "Mah Jongg!" Even if I miscalculate and don't get to say "MJ," the game itself is still fun and exciting.

On August 8th, it was my added pleasure to have shared food with and be part of the camaraderie of a group of women who are so good with beginners. Lakes residents are fortunate to have the opportunity to play and party in such a pretty clubhouse, renew friendships, reacquaint with neighbors, laugh and have fun.

After an evening of MJ with a twist, Marietta Menchini went home with a great door prize! If you'd like more info on joining us, email:

Mahjongglat@gmail.com





Men's Fall Bocce League

By Tom Kinirons

The Men's Bocce League begins their regular fall playing schedule on October 2nd.



The 8-team group will play an 8 week schedule of games meeting every Wednesday at 3:00pm at the Bocce courts behind the Clubhouse with team championship playoff games to then take place on November 20th.

Men's Bocce is open to all Lakes residents. To join them, contact Tom Kinirons at: tcksr@hotmail.com



Book Club - meets Monday, October 21st in the Clubhouse Veranda Room at 7:00pm. This month they will be discussing: *Moonglow* by Michael Chabon. Contact Lois Rosen at: *loro781@aol.com*

Bridge - plays every Monday afternoon in the veranda room of the Clubhouse at 1:00pm.

Canasta - plays every Tuesday in the main room of the Clubhouse at 12:00pm.

Cribbage - plays every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00pm in the main room of the Clubhouse.

Dancexrcise - meet every Monday & Tuesday morning in the main room of the Clubhouse at 10:00am.

Easy Stretch - meets every Tuesday morning in the main room of the Clubhouse at 9:00am.

Mah Jongg - plays every Monday and Friday afternoon at 1:00pm and every Thursday evening at 6:30pm in the main room of the Clubhouse.

Mexican Train - plays every Wednesday afternoon in the Clubhouse veranda room at 1:00pm.

Yoga - meets every Wednesday afternoon in the main room of the Clubhouse at 1:00pm.



Aqua Aerobics - class every Tuesday and Thursday morning at the Resort pool at 11:30am.

Circle of Friends Bocce - plays every Monday in October at 5:30pm. Beginners welcome. Just show up at the Bocce courts behind the Clubhouse.

Pickleball Club - open play: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 9am til 12pm. And on: Tue, Thur, Sun 6pm till 8pm. Contact: *pickleballclublat@gmail.com*

Women's Bocce - plays every Tuesday at 4pm at the Bocce courts behind the Clubhouse. Contact Lucille Wesnofske at: lwesnofske@yahoo.com



They say, all you need is love; But, you know, a little chocolate now & then never hurts.

Playing Mah Jongg At The Lakes Clubhouse By Elise Ross

Thursday evenings starting at 6:30pm, Lakes neighbors gather with like minded friends and have fun while improving their cognitive skills. As they walk into the main room, each player picks a colored disk from a box which designates the table where they will start playing that evening. One never knows who they will be playing with which allows everyone to get to know their neighbors and build a sense of community.

If there is an odd number of players, East rotates out after a game and another player joins the table for the next game. Rotating promotes inclusivity and allows everyone the opportunity to play. The great majority of the ladies are new to the game having learned within the last three years.

Mah Jongg originated in China in the mid-to-late 19th century. The game

took hold in the USA in the roaring 20's. It was mostly played by the wealthy because the expensive game tiles were made of hand-carved ivory or bone and bamboo. Today tiles are made of plastic. Players follow the National Mah Jongg League rules. The nonprofit League established in 1937 has over 300,000 members and each April issues the new MJ card required for play. Waiting for the new card, which keeps time for players.

Shuffling the tiles on the table, called "washing the tiles," starts play. The room quickly becomes full of the clicking sound of walls being built. Players then do a series of moves called Charleston, taken from the popular 1920's dance of the same name, where un-

wanted tiles are passed from one player to the next. Hands on the current MJ card are put together utilizing different combinations of tiles (suits, flowers, dragons, winds-North, South, East, West, and jokers). Players are responsible for their own moves, but they build off other players' moves to create hands. The first player matching tiles to make a specific hand wins!

The solo aspect of the game allows the player to build independence in their skills but playing with others encourages socializing. It is a good memory builder because the strategy of the game includes knowing

> what tiles others have played verses what tiles you should play. Playing can also improve hand-eye coordination, attention span and logical thinking.

> The hardest thing for beginners is to realize they are not going to learn how to play overnight. Many find it complicated at first. However, with the encouragement of their neighbors and frequent play (also practicing online at

home) combined with the beauty of the tiles and the challenge of the game it quickly becomes fun.

You can find competitive, demanding atmospheres at some locations but The Lakes Thursday Night MJ games are social and relaxed. Smiles and friendly play fill the room as the tiles click. A current MJ card is required but not a set. Experienced players are always the game vibrant and interesting, is a very exciting willing to answer a question which is often "when can I steal?" Answer: The first left pass and the last right pass. MJ takes time to learn but definitely worth it. It's fun and great for the brain but best of all a great way to make friends. Beginner classes are offered free of charge every few months. For more information email: MahjonggLAT@gmail.com

Volunteering At The Cleveland Clinic

By Carolyn Hammer

(Fourth in a Series)

Do you have a positive mindset, great customer service skills, and compassion and empathy for others? If so, you might consider volunteering at Cleveland Clinic Martin Health.

Cleveland

to meet new people and build relationships in your community.

> Volunteer opportunities are in Admitting, Emergency Department, Floor Service, Lobby Greeters, Spiritual Care, Surgical Waiting Room, and Welcome Cart. Volunteers are asked to fulfill one 4-hour shift per week, on the same day and time each week.

Volunteers can help create a positive and meaningful patient experience, and also provide valuable sup- 772-223-5945 ext: 13643, or submit an online appliport and assistance to caregivers. It's also a great way cation at: https://is.gd/CCVolunteerApplication

If you are interested, contact Volunteer Services at:

A History Of The Lakes

By Carolyn Hammer

homes in assembly line fashion, and that, coupled with A to Z was excellent. his development of a quick setting cement, made him an innovative home builder. His steel reinforced, poured concrete homes added to his reputation of pro- night the area felt very remote, and very dark, as there ducing "Built Solid" homes. He sped up the building were no streetlights anywhere. A brand-new home process by offering few options and making his own didn't include shades or blinds and there was no availcabinets and trim. DiVosta was able to produce a able internet or cable. The sound of cows mooing home in 47 days, whereas other builders took 90 days could be heard, and deer, raccoon, and feral pigs to build. There were specialized teams that worked roamed the community. The sounds of construction

together on each model. The Capri models had one team that worked only on the left facing Villa, and another separate team that worked only on the right facing one.

DiVosta sold his company to Pulte Homes in 1998 for \$155 million, and they maintained the same process and standards, continuing to pour the concrete homes using DiVosta's spe-

els.

The Lakes at Tradition was developed between Guffin, and Lori Gunn have been kind enough to share damage, though a few bird cages were blown away. their experiences of buying a home and moving into The Lakes in 2003. I am grateful to them, and their memories have been incorporated into this article.

your name was pulled, you had about 10 minutes to DiVosta townhouses originally were to be built. select the location of your future home and complete the paperwork. The initial drawing was for homes on Blue Mesa, Candlewood, Dardanelle and the first half are Brad, Isie and Lori, who all agree that The Lakes of Elsinore. At the time, some Capri homes were is a great place to live. The trees have grown, the priced in the \$150's. Each buyer received a helicopter Clubhouse enlarged and redecorated, and through all ride to see the location of their new home.

Just before closing, a walk-through inspection was provided for the buyer, accompanied by a DiVosta handyman, who placed blue stickers on anything that needed correcting. That punch-list was then very Otto "Buzz" DiVosta was a master builder who quickly satisfied. After closing, DiVosta sent a basket built some 40,000 homes in South Florida over 4 dec- to the new homeowner with wine, crackers and other ades. In the 1970's, he created a process for building goodies. All agreed DiVosta's customer service from

Moving into their new homes was exciting, but at

filled the air daily for years.

The Clubhouse wasn't completed until 2007, so residents had an unsheltered mail box station at the end of Dardanelle. With no clubhouse, guard gate, gym or office, HOA dues were a mere \$100 per quarter. Gatlin was a twolane road which was being widened in anticipation of the coming developments. The closest supermarket was Al-



most other communities within Tradition are just getting started.

cially-made forms that shaped each of his three mod- bertsons, which was located at Prima Vista and Cashmere.

In 2004, Hurricanes Jeanne and Francis delivered a 2001 and 2008, comprising about 290 acres. The devastating blow to the Treasure Coast. Although streets in The Lakes are laid out in alphabetical order, many area homes were damaged during those twin each named for various lakes spread across North hurricanes, The Lakes homes lived up to their "Built America. Three early residents, Isie Steinberg, Brad Solid" reputation, weathering both storms without real

The Great Recession of 2007 slowed building everywhere. Pulte sold off DiVosta's special forms used to pour the concrete homes, so the last few Capri Due to high demand, DiVosta homes were offered homes located on Stratton were built in 2008 using for sale through a lottery system. Hopeful homebuyers concrete block construction. They also chose not to act were required to go to The Isles in Palm Beach Gar- on an option for the land just beyond our "gate to nodens with a check for \$10K to enter the lottery. When where" at the west end of Tradition Lakes Blvd, where

> Our community is now more than 20 years older, as the changes that have come with the years, this has always been a wonderful place to call home.



Food Trucks and Tributes - On Friday October 4th in Tradition Square from 5-9pm, enjoy a live tribute concert to Whitney Houston & Tina Turner by "Divas of Soul.' Enjoy the powerful vocals of these iconic divas under the stars!

Healthy Boo-Bays 5K - Saturday, October 5th in Tradition Square at 7:30am is Traditions 4th annual Boo-Bays 5K. All proceeds go towards Friends in Pink. To pre-register, open the October Event Calendar at traditionfl.com and click on "Boo-Bays 5K."

Breakfast In The Square - Join Tueste Coffee Friday, October 11th and 25th from 9-11am in Tradition Square and have breakfast with friends or just grab a cup before or after your morning walk.

Pumpkin Decorating - On October 16th from 11am-noon at Tradition's Gazebo, let your kiddo's creativity shine decorating their very own pumpkins for Halloween. Supplies provided. Open the October Event Calendar at traditionfl.com and click on "Pumpkin Decorating" to pre-register.

Sensory Play With CrearKids - Bring the kiddos to Tradition Gazebo on Friday, October 18th at 11am for a fun hour where babies learn and develop new connections in their brain through Sensory play. For children 0-4 years. Sensory play supports language development as they learn to respond to different stimuli. Advance signup required. Open the October Event Calendar at: traditionfl.com and click on "Sensory Play."

Tradition's Monster Mash - Enjoy a spooktacular evening on October 26th from 5pm to 9pm at Tradition's family-friendly Halloween celebration! Dress in your favorite costume (no masks please). There will be a haunted house, trick-or-treating, and costume contests. Stop by for music, treats and fun!

Trick-or-Treat Bag Decorating - Decorate a trick-or-Treat bag at the Tradition Gazebo on October 30th from 6-7pm. Supplies provided. Open the October Event Calendar at traditionfl.com and click on "Trick-or-Treat Bag Decorating" to preregister. 1911

Tradition Community Association Managed by Castle Group

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am - 4:30p Office Phone: (772) 345-5101 Email: ashepherd@castlegroup.com

What's with The Shaved Sidewalks? (MM)

By Tom Klein



Our community is having a problem with tree lawn Oak tree roots raising our sidewalks. It is a common problem that many south Florida communities experience. There are many different types of Oak trees that the developer could have chosen for our community and all types have their pluses and minuses.

Some types of Oak trees are deciduous (meaning they drop all of their leaves in winter), making for a cold look to the tree all winter long. The Southern Live Oak, by contrast, (which DiVosta decided to plant here), is an evergreen variety retaining its leaves year round, giving it a prettier majestic look all year long. That is why he chose to plant Live Oak trees throughout our community.

But, the negative to Live Oaks is that their root system grows outward (staying on the surface), not downward. After a few years, those roots begin to reach under the nearby sidewalk, and as they grow larger in diameter over the years, they begin to cause the concrete of the sidewalk to raise.

Our Board currently deals with the situation handed our community by the developer by having a company inspect the sidewalks yearly. They then shave or grind down any edges they find raised, so it is now even again with the adjoining sidewalk.

This type of fix may be somewhat temporary in nature in that a sidewalk that has been shaved will sometimes need to be shaved some more several years later as those roots under that sidewalk grow even larger in diameter. Eventually, you run out of sidewalk to shave and that section is then replaced.

Unfortunately, the only true *permanent* fix for this type of problem is to remove all of the tree lawn Live Oak trees in our community and kill their root systems as several other south Florida communities who are older than ours have chosen to eventually do. The DiVosta community of "The Lakes at St. Lucie West" is a similar example. They recently removed all of their tree lawn Live Oaks.

Removing all Oaks obviously changes the "look" of a community and also is a very expensive option, which would cost about \$450,000 in today's dollars, which is a big reason why our Board hasn't entertained that type of fix in our community.



LIBRARIAN

Final Hurricane Thoughts - Part 3 By Thom Epsky

mer, our sunshine, warm temperatures and beautiful up to 15 days each, during hurricane season, in which beaches make way to hurricane season, which runs shutters may be installed while you are away from

from June 1 to November 30. Winds experienced from a hurricane can range from 75mph (category 1) to 150mph (category 5). Don't underestimate a category 1 hurricane, as they often spawn tornadoes, which can pack much higher winds. Take ALL hurricanes seriously & do shutter up.

Know that the HOA does NOT provide hurricane shutter installation. So, seasonal or absentee owners must make arrangements in advance for a vendor to install your shutters for you. Be sure to preauthorize them to enter the community (using the Dwelling Live website), so your

out delay, when needed.

might take you, when a storm actually does approach. possible after the storm.

Our documents allow shutters to be installed up to 3 days prior to a storm event, but may be installed on rear windows at any time. And, as a precautionary Living in paradise does have its price. Each sum- measure, residents are allowed two periods of time of

> home. If using this option, please notify the HOA office prior to installation. Shutter restrictions do not apply to accordion shutters.

> We anticipate that immediately after a hurricane, there will be lots of landscape debris scattered on every lot throughout the community. All mowing and trimming would be suspended for an undetermined amount of time while landscape personnel gather and clean up that debris.

> Any palms or trees blown down by high winds would first be removed from streets,

vendor will be able to perform that task for you with- then front yards & finally rear yards. We anticipate that at least one mow would be missed causing unmowed turf blades to become rather long as a result. If you have never installed your shutters in the past, Any help homeowners can give in gathering debris on you should try a "test run" now to familiarize yourself their lot would be greatly appreciated, helping landwith their installation and to determine how long it scapers return to the job of mowing turf as quickly as



By Carolyn Hammer

Kanopy is the SLC Library system's newest digital media source for accessing hundreds of free movies on your computer or mobile device. Choose from their collection of Independent, International, Documentary or early films from sources like Criterion, PBS and Kino Lorber.

To get started, go to *kanopy.com* and click on "add a library card" and enter the library

card. Complete your registration and respond to the gion, art, literature, ancient or modern history, science email asking to confirm your account. You must be 18 and technology, and life skills.

years or older to have a Kanopy account. You can watch through Roku, Apple or Apple TV and Chromecast.

You will be allocated 18 tickets per month with Kanopy, and a typical movie or show will "cost" 5 tickets. Kanopy Kids titles are free and will not count against your 18 tickets. Unused tickets do not roll over, but will reset to 18 on the first of each month.

> You can also access The Great Courses through Kanopy, and each course will use 5 tickets and give you 21 days to view. Through The Great Courses you can learn a

card number found on the back of your SLC library language, explore the world, or study cooking, reli-

Poolside Gardening

By Suzanne Lieurance

There's nothing like having your own garden, but when my husband and I moved to The Lakes at Tradition we thought our gardening days were over. We were told that everything edible must be grown within our screened pool enclosure, which is mostly concrete, so we had to get creative if we wanted a garden.

We decided to try a farm-stand. A farm-stand is a self-watering, self-fertilizing hydroponic system for growing fruits, vegetables, herbs, and even flowers (some of them edible). It doesn't take up much room, and all it needs is access to an electric outlet and a water source, which meant it would be perfect for our pool deck. We could use the outlet in our lanai to



plug in the timer and water pump and fill the tank of the farm-stand with fresh water with our garden hose.

During the three years that we've lived here now, we've enjoyed salads (almost daily) made with just-picked classic butter lettuce, red leaf lettuce, astro arugula, blue kale, cherry tomatoes, and green onions, among other veggies. Right now, our farm-stand also includes several varieties of basil, plus oregano, rosemary, thyme,

and spearmint.

When the weather gets a bit cooler, we'll swap out our summer fare for some fall fruits and veggies. We can even move the farm-stand indoors if we like, since we purchased "glow rings" which are tiny lights that connect to the timer and ensure the plants get enough "sunlight" every day. We order non-GMO seedlings for our farm-stand most of the time, but occasionally we'll grow something from seed. It's fun to experiment and see which things grow the best and which things we enjoy eating. Once the seedlings are placed on the farm-stand, all we do is add nutrients and fertilizer to the tank once a week and check the water and pH levels and make needed adjustments. As the plants grow, we keep them pest free with an organic spray.

All in all, gardening here at The Lakes is much more fun than we ever imagined it could be.

Veranda Room Echo By Thom Epsky Reduction Project Update

We are excited to share progress on our Veranda Room reverberation reduction initiative.

Our planning phase is complete, equipping us with a solid understanding of sound abatement and ideal materials. We have engaged with multiple vendors, sharing detailed specifications and discussing our needs both onsite and virtually.

Our review of vendor responses highlighted some challenges, including discontinued products and high costs, which has led us to adjust our approach. Despite these hurdles, we are focused on selecting the optimal product and refining our specifications. Currently, we are evaluating the viable concepts and preparing to request quotes.

Next, we will present quotes to the Board of Directors for approval. Thank you for your patience as we work to enhance the acoustics of the Veranda Room in our Clubhouse. Stay tuned for more updates as we move forward with this important project!

A Lakes Walking Club By Marie Perlman

Anyone interested in walking? I am considering starting a Walking Club and will commit as the Walking Club Leader. Each category of walkers should consist of five to fifteen members. All are welcome, no mater of age or fitness level.

I can schedule different groups of walkers. Time of day either morning, afternoon or evenings. Each group can choose how many days a week, etc. I am considering each group walk at least once or twice a week. 30-60 minutes a day depending on low to moderate level of walking. Paths would be identified and will keep the walks close to home.

Different Groups of Walkers to be Identified:

Beginners Race Walkers

Singles/Couples Parents with strollers

Dog Owners Newcomers
People with certain health conditions

It's wonderful to walk regularly. By forming a Walking Club, our community and neighborhood becomes involved and it shows our community is a safe place to walk, inviting others to also join.

Interested? Contact me at: 315-617-2228



Page 11 The Lakes Life October, 2024

Our COP Needs You! By Tor

Volunteers from The Lakes at Tradition staff one of seven Community On Patrol (COP) units that help our police patrol the streets of Port St. Lucie.

While riding in pairs, each volunteer member performs two 3-hour patrols per month in a radio equipped police department vehicle after completing a 16-hour training course at police headquarters.

Our Lakes Community Patrol (who patrol the Tradition area) is looking to add additional volunteers. A new instructional class is being held on October 21-24 from 9am to 1pm at PSL police headquarters.

If interested in joining, please contact either Tom Kinirons at: tcksr@hotmail.com or Donna Hentz at either: 772-344-4052 or dmhentz@cityofpsl.com

Our Favorite Recipes

Carol Klein's Apple Cake

- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 2 cups flour
- 1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 4 large Mcintosh apples pared & sliced
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Beat together sugar, oil, and eggs with an electric mixer until well blended. Mix flour, cinnamon and baking soda and stir by hand into wet mixture. Add apples and walnuts. Bake in greased 9 x 13 pan at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes. Sprinkle with confectioners sugar when cooled. Enjoy!

