

The Village Voice

Newsletter For Country Lakes Village II

Editor: Deb Autry • Phone: 704-308-1818 • Email: Deborahautry@yahoo.com

JULY 2023

VOLUME 36 NO 8

RESIDENTS' ACTIVITY CLUB (RAC) UPDATE

Anna Syjud, President

I hope everyone is having a great summer. I've seen many posts from our CLVII family on Facebook and there's been some connections at their summer homes. The summer series has been well received. July 4th will be awesome with great entertainment and food.

Everyone please keep those Facebook posts coming; we enjoy seeing everyone on their vacations and at family events.

Regards,
Anna

CLVII RAC Board of Directors: Anna Syjud - President, Dianne Meyaard - Vice President, Judy Faries – Treasurer, Lisa Eurick - Secretary, Directors: Kevin Karcher, Deb Williams, Dave Magne, Dale Dougherty, Jacquie Weigand





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FROM THE MANAGEMENT

Renovations are ongoing with the CLV 1 clubhouse exterior currently being painted.



CLV 2 clubhouse will then be painted - schedule TBD & announced, followed by the office - schedule TBD and announced. CLV 1's flooring has been replaced and the kitchen has new cabinets and granite has been ordered. We will reopen the CLV1 clubhouse as soon as possible.

Registered guests are welcome 15 consecutive days with a maximum of 30 per calendar year.

All vehicles parked in the RV storage area must be registered and approved by the office. Overnight parking on the roads and clubhouse is prohibited. Guest passes will be available for the clubhouse if needed. Please don't park on the grass or in your yard at any time.

Continue to pick up after your pets even when no one is looking. Your neighbors will appreciate it.

The clubhouse and amenities are for residents and their registered guests.

Rainy season is rapidly approaching, which is followed by weeds. Please make arrangements to have your yard looking good at all times as well as your home being free of mold. This is a year-round responsibility, whether you are currently in residence or not. Your cooperation is crucial to maximizing the value of all homes in the community.

Terry West

SUNSHINE CORNER

Peggy Seiler, Coordinator



Just before Mother's Day, we learned of the passing of Kaye Ervin in Michigan, and we conveyed our condolences to her husband, Mel. We also lost a loved and respected man in our community, Johnny Wright. May our community continue to show love and support to his widow, Janet, as she remains here in our village at this time.

Folks who have undergone surgery are recovering, some quicker than others. Marlena Bagwell, who recently moved from our community received her card and replied that she is "on the mend" from her back surgery.

We're sure it hurt, but we're glad to know that Larry Williams' hand surgery is healing.

Cards are sent to folks with health issues in our village, and a few wish to remain anonymous, but others like Marlies Veeder and Dave DeLong, who we see out riding his bike, are all in our thoughts and prayers.

MaryJo Schultz, although no longer in our community, has asked that we pray for her son Joe, who is very ill.

Overall, it's been a relatively quiet month, and that is a good thing! Our apologies for anyone not mentioned, but please do help me do the best I can by letting me know about sickness, surgery, or death in our community. TOGETHER is what makes a community – but more importantly, a caring community! Contact: 941-217-9384

Thank you, and blessings...

Peggy

RESIDENTS' BOARD TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR OPENINGS

The Residents' Advisory Board will be filling three openings in October. Newly appointed members will take office at the November meeting. An application form has been developed. You may get a form from any current board member, or you may respond to the following items on a separate sheet of paper. All applications are due by October 1. Completed applications may be dropped off at the office or given to Cheryl Koepke. Required answers include the following: (Please number your answers to match the items.)

- (1) Name
- (2) FL Address
- (3) Email Address
- (4) Phone Number
- (5) Date you became a resident of Country Lakes
- (6) Are you a full-time resident? _____ YES _____ NO
- (7) State why you want to be a board member.
- (8) Are you able to look forward in the decision-making process for the betterment of our parks with no personal agenda? Please explain.
- (9) Would you be able to abide by a consensus vote regarding a topic that you disagree with? If not, please explain. (Consensus Definition: A decision reached from input by each member toward a decision that can be supported by every person in the group. Each member agrees to support and not speak out regarding the decision.
- (10) If you are a part-time resident, would you stay actively involved in community issues while you are not physically present? How would you achieve this?
- (11) Are you able to discuss issues and concerns and separate your personal views when reaching a decision that may not be liked or supported (by friends, minority groups, social media sites)? Please explain.
- (12) Can you commit to keeping board discussions within the board (no discussion outside board membership)?
- (13) Do you believe you have been a resident long enough to be objective to issues that may arise? Explain how you are an active and involved resident.
- (14) As a small group decision-making team member, are you able and willing to listen to all opinions and to express your opinions with patience when varying views and concerns are being expressed?

AN OPINION

Johnny Wright loved living in Country Lakes Village II. He loved the look of this place, the feel of this place and the people who live in this place. He was fascinated and delighted by the habit almost everyone has of waving to any and all passersby so much that he decided to write about it. Johnny passed away May 28, 2023. I don't think he would mind my sharing it with you. -- from his wife, Janet Wright

WAVE, AMERICA, WAVE

When I left my Indiana town and rural county, I immediately missed people waving to neighbors and even others they didn't know. The times I remember when waving was at its highest was in the late 1940s through the late 50s. Those times also reflected the end of World War II when our entire population was still very patriotic. Much of the waving you saw then was "Old Glory," waving high and smiling to all.

In my younger life, I experienced moving from my home community to more urban areas, where waving and smiling was largely limited to neighbors and friends. But waving to each and every person you met was long gone, maybe due to a shift from our agrarian country to an industrial power, reflecting the diversity of our growing nation. Some adapted and others experienced more difficulty.

Time flies by so quickly. My wife and I have been so fortunate to have landed here in CLV II. We chose this place to be near our family in a comfortable community that is well shaded (including "Spanish moss," my favorite), beautiful, well-groomed. And the drain lids are even marked 1986 (the year of our marriage!) But most of all, people wave, not only to those they know, but to those



they don't know, and with a smile!

Our flag even waves high and smiles at all who enter CLV II. We may not agree on other matters, but we're together as a community that respects and waves to all, always with a smile.

Now to me, THAT says it all!!

Johnny G. Wright, 1943-2023

FUN FACTS ABOUT FIREWORKS

1. The Chinese used firecrackers to scare off mountain men.

As early as 200 B.C., the Chinese were writing on green bamboo stalks and heating it on coals to dry. Sometimes if left too long over the heat, the wood expanded and even burst, with a bang of course. According to Scientific American, Chinese scholars noticed that the noises effectively scared off abnormally large mountain men. And, thus, the firecracker was born. By some accounts, fireworks were also thought to scare away evil spirits.



2. The invention of fireworks led to the invention of pyrotechnic weaponry—not the other way around.

Sometime between 600 and 900 C.E., Chinese alchemists accidentally mixed saltpeter (or potassium nitrate) with sulfur and charcoal, inadvertently stumbling upon the crude chemical recipe for gunpowder. Supposedly, they had been searching for an elixir for immortality.

This "fire drug" (or *huo yao*) became an integral part of Chinese cultural celebrations. Stuffing the aforementioned bamboo tubes with gunpowder created a sort of sparkler. It wasn't long before military engineers used the explosive chemical concoction to

Continued on page 7



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their advantage. The first recorded use of gunpowder weaponry in China dates to 1046 and references a crude gunpowder catapult. The Chinese also took traditional bamboo sparklers and attached them to arrows to rain down on their enemies. On a darker note, there are also accounts of fireworks being strapped to rats for use in medieval warfare.

3. Fireworks are just chemical reactions.

A firework requires three key components: an oxidizer, a fuel, and a chemical mixture to produce the color. The oxidizer breaks the chemical bonds in the fuel, releasing all the energy that's stored in those bonds. To ignite this chemical reaction, all you need is a bit of fire, in the form of a fuse or a direct flame.

In the case of early fireworks, saltpeter was the oxidizing ingredient that drove the reaction, as British scholar Roger Bacon figured out in the early 1200s. Interestingly, Bacon kept his findings a secret, writing them in code to keep them out of the wrong hands.

4. Specific elements produce specific colors.

Firework color concoctions are comprised of different metal elements. When an element burns, its electrons get excited, and it releases energy in the form of light. Different chemicals burn at different wavelengths of light. Strontium and lithium compounds produce deep reds; copper produces blues; titanium and magnesium burn silver or white; calcium creates an orange color; sodium produces yellow pyrotechnics; and finally, barium burns green. Combining chlorine with barium or copper creates neon green and turquoise flames, respectively. Blue is apparently the most difficult to produce. Pyrotechnic stars comprised of these chemicals are typically propelled into the sky using an aerial shell.

5. China may have invented the firework, but Italy invented the aerial shell (and also made fireworks colorful).

Most modern fireworks displays use aerial shells,

which resemble ice cream cones. Developed in the 1830s by Italian pyrotechnicians, the shells contain fuel in a cone bottom, while the "scoop" contains an outer layer of pyrotechnic stars, or tiny balls containing the chemicals needed to produce a desired color, and an inner bursting charge. Italians are also credited with figuring out that one could use metallic powders to create specific colors. Today, the shape that the firework produces is a product of the inner anatomy of the aerial shell or rocket.



6. Boom! Hiss! Crack! Some firework recipes include sound elements.

Layers of an organic salt, like sodium salicylate, combined with the oxidizer potassium perchlorate burn one at a time. As each layer burns, it slowly releases a gas, creating the whistling sound associated with most firework rockets. Aluminum or iron flakes can create hissing or sizzling sparks, while titanium powder can create loud blasts, in addition to white sparks.

7. Fireworks are poisonous.

Given their ingredients, it makes sense that fireworks are not so great for the environment. Exploding a firework releases heavy metals, dioxins, perchlorates and other air pollutants into the atmosphere, and these pollutants have serious health effects in high doses. Barium nitrate can cause lung problems, while the oxidizer potassium perchlorate has been linked to thyroid problems and birth defects.

8. Americans have been setting off fireworks to celebrate their independence since 1777, at least.

Even some of the very first Independence Day celebrations involved fireworks. On July 4,

Continued on page 9

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1777, Philadelphia put together an elaborate day of festivities, notes American University historian James R. Heintze. The celebration included a 13-cannon display, a parade, a fancy dinner, toasts, music, musket salutes, “loud huzzas,” and of course fireworks.

9. Fireworks are dangerous (duh).

It might seem obvious, but it’s worth noting for those who plan to tinker with pyrotechnics in the backyard this 4th of July. Last year saw an uptick in fireworks-related injuries according to a new report by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). In 2012, 8,700 people injured themselves using fireworks, and in 2013, that tally jumped to 11,300 people. Roughly 65 percent of those injuries happened in the 30 days surrounding July 4th. More than 40 percent of the injuries involved sparklers and rockets. In addition to injuries, fireworks can also spark wildfires.

10. Fireworks have been used in pranks for centuries.

After a series of fireworks shenanigans in 1731, officials in Rhode Island outlawed the use of fireworks for mischievous ends. At the turn of the 20th century, the Society for the Suppression of Unnecessary Noise campaigned against the use of fireworks (and other elements of urban hubbub), and their efforts are largely responsible for the first fireworks regulations in the United States.



TRAVEL

Bev Smith, Coordinator

ALASKA July 29th - August 9th, 2023: 5-day land tour and 7-day cruise on the Sapphire Princess.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE
January 20th - 27th, 2024: Islands are Barbados, Trinidad, Tobago, St. Lucia, St. Maarten and Puerto Rico. Almost sold out! Only a few inside and outside window rooms left.

PARIS AND SEINE RIVERBOAT CRUISE
April 23rd – May 4th, 2024: Five days in Paris and seven days on the Seine aboard the Riviera Jane Austen riverboat. Please call or email with any questions.

FUTURE TRIPS: A trip to Hawaii is being planned, as well as more day trips.

Sign up on your travel board in the clubhouse for any trips.

All this info is on your TRAVEL BOARD. CLV Travel representatives LARRY and BEV SMITH, 607-742-9949, e-mail bevseneca@gmail.com. Our travel agent is Valerie Gill, 941-232-8612, e-mail valatwk@aol.com We are looking forward to having a fun time with all of you!! Please watch your monthly newsletters and travel boards for updated info.!!

Bev



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COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

PLEASE WATCH THE COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARDS AND THE "FRIENDS @ CLVII" FACEBOOK PAGE FOR SCHEDULE AND EVENT DETAILS, CHANGES AND UPDATES.

Attention CLVII residents. Did you know we have internal mailboxes in the Clubhouse? They are in the south side of the hallway between the kitchen and rest rooms, near the side entrance. These boxes are for



postage-free communications between residents, and sometimes lost mail, all year long. They are also used after the annual Christmas card boxes are gone, and cards are moved to this location if they have not been picked up. Please check them often in case something is waiting for you!



Please add your picture to our Picture Board! ! This helps your neighbors put a face to a name. .

COFFEE TIME

Join us for Saturday morning coffee, donuts and chat!

8:15 a.m. at the clubhouse.



<http://www.countrylakesvillage.com>

Click on Community News

Username: clvresident
Password: CountryLakes



Thank you!



VILLAGE VOICE






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July 2023 CLVII Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	DAILY EVENTS
						1	<u>MONDAY</u> 8:30 - Pickleball 8:30 - Cardio/Strength 1:00 - Mah-Jongg
2	3	4 	5	6	7	8	<u>TUESDAY</u> 9:30 - Water Exercise 4:00 - Social Hour/Potluck 7:00 - Mixed Bridge 7:00 - Darts
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	<u>WEDNESDAY</u> 8:30 - Pickleball 8:30 - Cardio/Strength 12:00 - Pennies from Heaven/ Library 3:00 - Cornhole
16  7 p.m. Ice Cream Social	17 	18	19	20	21	22	<u>THURSDAY</u> 9:30 - Water Exercise 6:30 - Euchre
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	<u>FRIDAY</u> 8:30 - Pickleball 1:00 - 6-Deck Canasta 7:00 - Karaoke
30	31						<u>SATURDAY</u> 8:15 - Coffee Hour 9:30 - Water Exercise
<p>FOR CALENDAR CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS, CALL DEB ATRY AT 704-308-1818 or e-mail deborahbautry@yahoo.com For any community related emergencies after business hours please call 844-285-2099</p>							<u>EVERY THIRD MONDAY</u>  (Check facebook to confirm)

August 2023 CLVII Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	DAILY EVENTS
		1	2	3	4	5	<u>MONDAY</u> 8:30 - Pickleball 8:30 - Cardio/Strength 1:00 - Mah-Jongg
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	<u>TUESDAY</u> 9:30 - Water Exercise 4:00 - Social Hour/Potluck 7:00 - Mixed Bridge 7:00 - Darts
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	<u>WEDNESDAY</u> 8:30 - Pickleball 8:30 - Cardio/Strength 12:00 - Pennies from Heaven/ Library 3:00 - Cornhole
						 August Summer Party	<u>THURSDAY</u> 9:30 - Water Exercise 6:30 - Euchre
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	<u>FRIDAY</u> 8:30 - Pickleball 1:00 - 6-Deck Canasta 7:00 - Karaoke
 7 p.m. Ice Cream Social							<u>SATURDAY</u> 8:15 - Coffee Hour 9:30 - Water Exercise
27	28	29	30	31			<u>EVERY THIRD MONDAY</u>  (Check facebook to confirm)

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TRIVIA QUESTIONS:

1. Who is the most recent U.S. president without a college degree?
 - a. Jimmy Carter
 - b. Harry S. Truman
 - c. Ronald Reagan
 - d. Theodore Roosevelt
2. What city claims to have the first pasta factory in the U.S.?
 - a. New York
 - b. Chicago
 - c. Los Angeles
 - d. San Francisco
3. Who led the Confederates during the American Civil War?
 - a. Franklin Pierce
 - b. Andrew Johnson
 - c. James Buchanan
 - d. Jefferson Davis

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RECENT ACTIVITIES IN THE PARK



Above: In appreciation for such a great community response to their fundraising efforts, the HOA donated an outdoor storage chest and some pool noodles.

Right: Residents showed up in all their red, white, and blue splendor for the Memorial Day Celebration on May 29th. Boardwalk Baby Duo provided the entertainment, while MNM BBQ provided a feast with pulled chicken with all the fixin's.



TRIVIA ANSWERS:

1. b. Harry S. Truman
2. a. New York
3. d. Jefferson Davis



Both indoor and outdoor fun was enjoyed at the Summer Series June Party. Carr's Custom Catering did a great job with the Taco Bar, and community favorite Paul Alonso entertained – with an assist from Laurie Cumbie!

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DID YOU KNOW ?

Venus spins backward.

There are entire websites devoted to whether or not Mercury is in retrograde at any given moment, and all the while Venus is spinning backward (compared to most other planets) while few of us on Earth even notice. As a result, the sun rises in the west and sets in the east on the second rock from the sun. Though no one's entirely sure why our fiery neighbor rotates to the beat of its own drum, it's been theorized that it originally spun in the same way as most other planets (counterclockwise when viewed from above), but at some point, flipped its own axis 180 degrees. So, while its rotation appears backward from our earthbound perspective, it might be more accurate to say that Venus spins the same way it always has, just upside-down.

Some scientists think the flip might have been the result of a situation arising from the planet's extremely dense atmosphere along with the sun's intense gravitational pull, though the scientific community has yet to reach a consensus. For all that, Venus has often been referred to as Earth's sister planet — even more so than Mars. We're the two closest neighbors in the solar system, have similar chemical compositions, and are roughly the same size. One crucial difference: Venus probably cannot support life.

Bonus fact: A day — or the length of time it takes for the planet to spin on its axis — lasts 243 Earth days on Venus, while a year (one complete rotation around the sun) lasts 224.7 days. This is by far the longest day in the solar system, with Mercury coming in second (about 59 days).

COUNTRY LAKES VILLAGE II RAC PRESENTS

A 2023 Summer Series Event

Saturday,
August 19th

1 - 4 p.m.



Tickets Available 7/29
\$20 - Refundable at Door

Dianne Meyaard
2185 Easy St.



Lunch provided by
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1 - 4 P.M. BYOB

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4th of July

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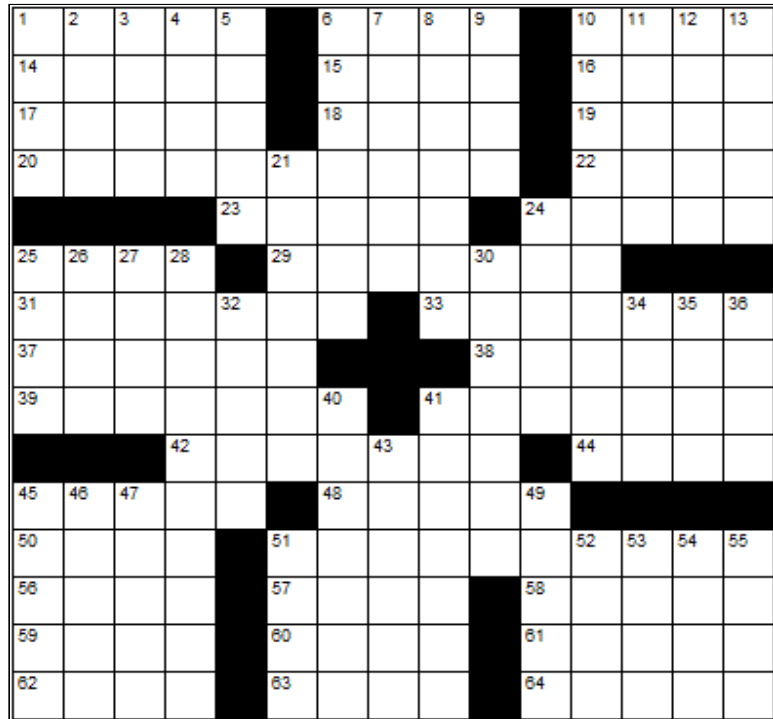
941.343.8022

800.681.3772

July Crossword

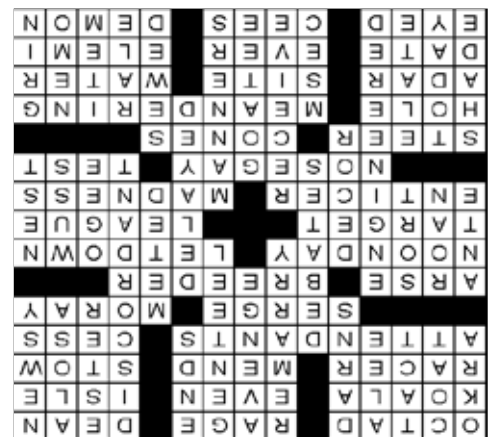
ACROSS

1. Group of eight
6. Anger
10. College bigwig
14. Australian "bear"
15. Smooth or level
16. Small island
17. Formula 1 driver
18. Repair
19. Put away
20. Stewards
22. British tax
23. Durable fabric
24. Large marine eel
25. Rear end
29. Stud farm operator
31. Middy
33. Anticlimax
37. Prey
38. Alliance
39. Siren
41. Insanity
42. Bouquet
44. Exam
45. Direct
48. Funnel shapes
50. Puncture
51. Wandering
56. Jewish month
57. Location
58. Ice or steam
59. Day, month and year
60. At any point
61. Lacquer ingredient
62. Got a good look at
63. C C C
64. Evil spirit



DOWN

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Gumbo ingredient | 13. Paperboy | 40. Get |
| 2. Jacket | 21. Argues | 41. Social skills |
| 3. Diplomacy | 24. Doled | 43. A small chin beard |
| 4. Away from the wind | 25. Initial wager | 45. Protective covering from sunlight |
| 5. Fixes socks | 26. Horse color | 46. This day |
| 6. Wed again | 27. Classify | 47. Fill with joy |
| 7. Seek revenge | 28. Designed | 49. Stitched |
| 8. Civilized | 30. Postponed | 51. Millisecond |
| 9. Stops | 32. Interior layout and furnishings | 52. Rattling breath |
| 10. Lacking in harmony | 34. Curved molding | 53. Any thing |
| 11. Aromatic compound | 35. Wimp | 54. Captain of the Nautilus |
| 12. Shad | 36. Bird home | 55. Smile |



CELEBRATIONS

July Birthdays

Jul 1 Taz Roberts
Jul 1 Tammy Hayden
Jul 2 Ron Lorenz
Jul 2 Sharon Benedict
Jul 2 Diana Pickens
Jul 3 Janice Kasnevich
Jul 3 Debbie Oliver
Jul 4 Victoria DeRosa
Jul 4 Terry Fleming
Jul 6 Thor Olsen
Jul 7 Ann Marsden
Jul 12 Gene Jambor
Jul 12 Laura Milburn
Jul 14 Barry Arnold
Jul 15 Darlene Nielsen
Jul 15 Bonnie Bazydlo
Jul 17 Susie Taunt
Jul 23 Ed Benedict
Jul 25 Joann Brown
Jul 27 Dianne Meyaard
Jul 28 Gale Sills
Jul 29 Colleen Magne
Jul 31 Luis Carvalho
Jul 31 Diane Arena

If you need to change your email, birthday, or anniversary, please contact Deb Autry @ 704-308-1818 and leave a message. Make sure you put in your name and lot number when you do.

“THINGS TO DO” IN THE PARK

Pickleball - Mon - Wed - Fri 8:30 a.m.
Coordinator: Sandy Kaple 419-235-3417

Pennies from Heaven - Wednesday
12:00 p.m.
Coordinator: Sue Garcia 906-280-2890

Mah-Jongg - Monday - 1 p.m.
Coordinator: Barb Gibson 941-304-6588

Water Aerobics - Tues, Thu, Sat 9:30 a.m.
Coordinator: Joann Dodge 941-224-7106

Potluck & Social Hour - Tuesday 4 p.m.
BYOB and munchies plus a dish to share.

Darts - Tuesday 7 p.m.
Coordinator: Water Hull 614-578-6562

Cornhole - Wednesday 3 p.m.
Coordinator: Kevin Karcher 609-929-2211

Canasta - Friday 1 p.m.
Coordinator: TBD

Karaoke - Friday 7 p.m.
Coordinators:
Cherry Vickery 941-301-7782
Anna Syjud 248-983-8545

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

July Anniversaries

Jul 1 Don & Donna Pfluke
Jul 2 Patrick & Angel Besanson
Jul 3 Jim & Gail Stickner
Jul 3 Gerald & Jenny Martin
Jul 5 Joseph & Phyllis DeMay 55 years
Jul 6 Lester & Peggy Seiler 55 years
Jul 16 Richard & Christina Rhodes 57 years
Jul 18 Dom & Ginny Femia 59 years
Jul 27 Bruce & Jacquie Benyo 55 years
Jul 28 Del & Pat Lambert



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