

The Seagull

Lakeside Terrace | 24 Sunrise Lane, Fruitland Park, FL 34731
www.lakesideterrace.net

October 2024



photo by
Jody Ross

The Seagull is published by the Lakeside Terrace Social Club

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Social Club Calendar

October 2024

Tuesday, October 1, Social Club Meeting, Clubhouse, 7 PM
Friday, October 10, ELS Cowboy Cookout, Clubhouse, Noon
Saturday, October 12, HOA Board Meeting, Clubhouse, 9:45 AM
Tuesday, October 15, Guys n Gals, Old Time Diner, 1:00 PM
Thursday, October 17, Birthday Party, Clubhouse at 5 PM
Thursday, October 18, Book Club, Clubhouse 2 PM (3rd Fri this month only)
Sunday, October 27, Feeding the Homeless Donations, drop off at Clubhouse
Monday, October 28, Feeding the Homeless Meal Assembly, Clubhouse at 8 AM
Tuesday, October 29, Burrys Pharmacy, Clubhouse, 10 AM - 11AM

Recurring Activities (Monthly)

2nd Fri Book Club 2 PM
 3rd Tue Guys 'n Gals Luncheon 1 PM
 3rd Thu Birthday Dinner 5 PM
 3rd Fri Grandma's Bingo + Wine 6:30 PM

Recurring Activities (Weekly)

Sundays = 1 PM Billiards
 6 PM Euchre (Bring \$.50; Prizes)
 Mondays = 7 AM Exercise with Peg
 10 AM Pool Aerobics
 1 PM Wii Bowling
 5 PM Bingo
 Tuesdays = 1 PM Billiards
 2 PM Left, Right, Center
 Wednesdays = 7 AM Exercise with Peg
 10 AM Pool Aerobics
 6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo+Wine
 Thursdays = 1 PM Mahjongg
 1 PM Shuffleboard
 Fridays = 7 AM Exercise with Peg
 10 AM Pool Aerobics
 1 PM Billiards
 6:30 PM Not Your Grandma's Bingo

Social Club News

Martha Grove, President



Happy fall from your Social Club! Our first meeting will be Tuesday, October 1st. There will be a meet and greet at 6:30. You will be able to meet our new neighbors or catch up with old friends over snacks. The meeting is at 7 PM. It's very important to attend the meetings if you want any input on functions or just want to know what's going on.

The Halloween party will be Thursday, October 31st, and the theme is a luau. It will be chaired by Grace Hetherington and Dianne DiLuzio—more specifics later. There will be prizes for best costume and best golf cart in the parade. Remember you have to be a social club member to win prizes. There will be lots of food and fun.

Our Veteran's Day breakfast will be Saturday, October 9th, at 9 AM. The breakfast is \$5, but veterans are free. Veterans, please bring a picture of you in your uniform so we can post it and try to guess who. Don't worry, we won't damage your photo.

Thanksgiving dinner is November 28th. Grace and Pat Hetherington have volunteered to do dinner again this year—time and information later.

November 30th we will be decorating the club house for Christmas after coffee and donuts. Coffee and donuts will be free if you stay to decorate. That evening will be a chili dinner at 5 PM. The Social Club will provide a couple of kinds of chili and crackers. You can bring desserts or anything you would like to eat with chili.

Watch for more information on Christmas caroling and the Sally Cannon Toys for Kids.

We will need someone to chair the Christmas dinner and a New Year's Eve party. Make sure you check the kiosks and boards in the clubhouse as well as Facebook.

Greetings from the HOA

Randy Ellis, President



As I write this article, it is September 14, and we just had our monthly meeting this morning. The next HOA meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 12th, and then our last meeting for 2024 will be November 9th. There

Continued on page 5

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will be no meeting in December, and then the mandatory Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, January 14th. Coffee & Donuts will be made available in the mornings when meetings are held until the Coffee Klatch resumes in the fall.

As most know, there will be a new fence installed surrounding the pool. It will be much more attractive, and Malinda will also be looking to install a white vinyl fence around the filter area. It was originally expected to be completed in September but could be pushed into October. It is expected that the pool will be closed for a week during installation.

On October 29, Burrys Pharmacy will be on site to administer Flu Shots and Covid Boosters. There will be an application in this edition of the Seagull where you can fill out or scan the QR code to register online. There are paper forms available at the Clubhouse as well. Should you fill out the paper form, please return it to me, or place it in the HOA Box located at the Clubhouse. Please put any paper applications in a sealed envelope. I do want to thank former Social Club President Deborah Brown for initiating this idea two years ago. We will keep it ongoing.

Our days are getting shorter, and our nights are getting cooler. I notice the pool temperature is cooler in the morning as well. The cooler weather should bring an end to those nasty pests we know as blind mosquitoes. With October coming upon us, we will be welcoming back our winter residents, in the park and throughout the area. When Terri and I moved in here 8 years ago, I learned a new slogan. "You know it's fall, but unlike the North where the leaves change colors, here the license plates change colors.

The HOA Board conducts meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month (September – May and July +September) at 9:45 AM and an annual meeting on the 2nd Tuesday evening in January. We encourage you to attend and assist the board in making decisions about the future of our park. Keep in mind, every one of us is on the same TEAM. If you are not on Facebook, and do not have an email address and would like to receive a hard copy of my communications, please message me and I will do my best to provide you with such. If you are not receiving emails from the HOA, please contact us so that you can be added to our emailing list. Any information that the HOA receives from a resident is not shared with any outside groups. With your

consent, it can be shared with the Social Club and our in-park directory. Resident Information Forms are located at the Clubhouse for anyone that needs to update their personal information with the HOA. We also have a new Comment/Wish List Slip at the Clubhouse and a locked box where anyone can submit these particular forms or slips. If anyone has any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Randy Ellis – President

Lakeside Terrace Homeowners Association Inc.

Randyellis01@gmail.com

Lakesideterracehoa@gmail.com

Telephone: 508-697-8745

Manager's Corner

Malinda Brown, Community Manager



Dear Residents,

October is here. Let us welcome fall and many of the snowbirds that are returning soon. We have surely missed them.

Our staff has been quite busy. Ryan has been getting more acclimated to his role here with us. We are ready for our Cowboy Cookout.

There is a sign-up sheet in the clubhouse. Please don't forget to sign up! Also, let us know if you are unable to come and need a plate delivered. We will deliver to shut-ins and disabled. Hoping to see everyone else there!

We have sent out the rent notices for 2025. If you did not get yours, please let us know.

I want to clear up any confusion there may be about the rules of the road pertaining to bicycles and other vehicles in our community. It seems like this is affecting a great deal of the community and is a BIG issue. Our roads are public roads so, the following do apply:

- **When traveling slower than the normal speed of traffic and there is NO bike lane, bicyclists are required to ride as far to the right of the roadway as practicable, unless the bicyclist is preparing for a turn, overtaking, and passing, traveling on a one-way street, avoiding hazards, traveling in a lane too narrow to share, and avoiding a mandatory turn lane.**
- **Bicyclists are required to slow down and come to a COMPLETE STOP at stop signs**

Continued on page 6

and traffic devices signaling red.

- **Bicyclists must look behind them, signal and yield to traffic present when turning, changing lanes, and coming to a stop.**
- **Motor vehicles are REQUIRED to pass bicyclists with at least 3 feet of clearance.**
- **At night, a bicycle MUST be equipped with a front white light visible from 500 feet away.**
- **Bicyclists may not wear headsets or earplugs while riding unless it is a hearing aid or instrument for improvement of defective human hearing. Bicyclists may use a headset that only provides sound through one ear and permits surrounding sounds to be heard with the other ear.**
- **Motor vehicle drivers may NOT open a motor vehicle door with the intent to strike, injure, interfere with any bicyclist, or to interfere with the movement of traffic.**

Please obey the Florida laws. Please also be aware of walkers, bicycles, and golf carts as you are pulling out of your driveways. STOP SIGNS are not suggestions. All bicycles, golf carts, and vehicles should be stopping at every one of them! We do not want anyone getting hurt and nobody here wants to unintentionally hurt anyone else. So, please follow the laws and be aware of your surroundings!

And lastly, I don't expect everyone here to like each other. But, what I do expect is that everyone should be respectful to one another. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. So, pause and think before you speak, post, talk about and to one another. Would you like it if someone did that to you? If not, please refrain. Simple respect and kindness go a long way. Let's do better and have a great Fall.

Garden Update

Patty Kendrick



The Garden Club met on August 28th to discuss our garden plans for the fall. Carol Roberts led the meeting and presented a list of members and plot locations. We had several new residents interested in obtaining plots and were able to accommodate them all.

The plots are soon going to be transformed from weeds to carefully cleared and planted for the fall

crops. Lists of vegetables that have done well were given to everyone, and we all got excited over new prospects. There are plans to add a spigot in the garden area and also some general landscaping issues to be addressed.

Interested in joining? Please contact Carol (937-409-2844) or Patty (443-875-7024.)

Ladies of Leisure Luncheons

Seagull Staff



For the past 14 years, Karen Keenan has been the planning force behind our monthly ladies' lunches. Always locating new and interesting kitchens, she would post an invite, take a head count, make a reservation, and arrive early to insure our group was expected and planned for. We had many a delicious and joyful meal, surrounded by friends new and old. Thank you, Karen, for your contributions to our community.



As Karen is resigning from this role, Social Club is seeking someone to take it on. Ladies of Leisure Luncheons are planned monthly from October through May.

Grateful thank you from Social Club to Sue Furry who will take over Ladies' of Leisure Luncheon beginning in November.





500 Webster Street, Leesburg, FL 34748
Phone: (352)787-3787 Fax: (352)787-6926

Lakeside Terrace: Flu Shot and COVID Booster Clinic Sign-Up

Please read below carefully, fill out this form to the best of your knowledge. The clinic will take place at the **Clubhouse at Lakeside Terrace on Tuesday, October 29th from 10 AM to 11 AM.** An age-appropriate flu shot will be provided. The updated booster doses (Fall 2024) for Moderna and Pfizer will be available. Please return paper forms to the Randy Ellis by Friday, October 18th. If you have already signed up via the electronic form, there is no need to fill out this paper form. If you have any questions, please contact **Trey Burry** at Burry's Pharmacy by email trey@burryspharmacy.com or phone (352)787-3787.

PATIENT INFO

PATIENT NAME _____

DATE OF BIRTH ____ / ____ / ____
month day year

HOME ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

CIRCLE: FLU SHOT OR COVID BOOSTER OR BOTH

COVID BIVALENT BOOSTER: MODERNA OR PFIZER

DATE OF LAST DOSE: ____ / ____ / ____
month day year

SCREENING CHECKLIST:

	yes	no	don't know
1. Are you sick today (will ask again on the date of the clinic)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you have allergies to medications, food, a vaccine component, or latex?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Have you ever had a serious reaction after receiving a vaccination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Have you ever had Guillain-Barre syndrome?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



VACCINE ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

The most likely side effects that you may experience from the vaccine:

- Fever
- Pain at the injection site
- Redness and hardness of the skin at the injection
- Headache
- Muscle aches or pain
- Joint aches or pain
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Nausea/vomiting
- Chills
- Underarm gland swelling on the side of vaccination

By signing this form I hereby accept that:

- I have read and understood information provided above.
- I declare that the information I have provided above is correct.
- I am giving my full consent to get the COVID-19 vaccine of my own will.
- I will show up ON TIME for my appointment. If I miss my appointment for any reason, I will LOSE MY RESERVED COVID-19 VACCINE and will be required to wait until new appointments are available.
- I have been provided with information about the CDC's V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html>)
- I have been provided with the Vaccine Recipient Fact Sheet (Moderna- <https://www.fda.gov/media/144638/download>) (Pfizer- <https://labeling.pfizer.com/ShowLabeling.aspx?id=14472>) (Flu- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu.pdf>)

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

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Golf Cart Parades

Carol Hetherington



April, May, and June were slow months for birthday parades, but Jeanne Sullivan's 90th in July brought out a crowd. Our next birthday parade will be in October. Later, we will sponsor a Halloween parade with a \$25 gift card for best decorated cart. As usual, you must be a Social Club member to win.

Someone 85 or Older?

Let's have a birthday parade!

Contact: Carol: 810-964-5606

or Linda: 916-541-7305

Out and About

October Happenings

Ruth Bernier



The big thing about October is the celebration of Halloween! Everyone seems to make a big deal about it. But do they know the history of it? Here is a brief explanation of how it all began.

Halloween developed mostly from the Christian feasts of the dead from later in the Middle Ages, including All Saints Day on November 1st and All Souls Day on November 2nd. By the 9th Century, October 31st was being celebrated throughout Western Christendom as All Hallows Eve, later contracted to Halloween. This was considered a religious holiday. By the end of the Middle Ages, Halloween was no longer considered a religious holiday, but a secular one (secular meaning attitudes or activities which have no religious or spiritual basis.) In the early 1800's, the celebration of Halloween was forbidden by the early American colonists. By mid-19th century, numbers of immigrants, including the Irish, took their Halloween customs with them, and in the 20th century, Halloween became one of the principal U.S. Holidays, particularly among children.

There is much associated with Halloween. One practice is pulling harmless pranks. Celebrants wear masks and costumes for parties. They go from house to house asking for treats with the threat they will pull a trick if they do not receive a treat, usually candy. Many things have now been

included in the celebration of Halloween—ghosts, witches, vampires, jack-o-lanterns, skeletons, bats, etc. Another aspect of Halloween is that many non-profit organizations use this holiday to ask for donations. One is the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) which provides many programs for children around the world.

Coming up in Fruitland Park for an October experience is

Boo's, Brews and BBQ on Friday, Oct.18th from 6p.m. to 10p.m. which includes Trunk or Treat, Live Music, Vendors, Food, Beer & Sauce Tasting and on Sat. 19th, from 11a.m.-3p.m. BBQ Tastings, Live Music, Vendors, Games, Food, Drinks, Beer Tasting. This will be held at Windy Acres Farm 1236 Miller Blvd. Fruitland Park, FL. 34731.

An event close to Lakeside Terrace is

Trick or Treat on Main Street, Leesburg, FL. on Saturday, October 26th from 4p.m. to 7p.m. This will be an unforgettable celebration filled with candy, music, and magic! A handy map will be provided to guide you to all the best candy spots.

One other event is

Halloween Fest at the Lake Square Mall, 10401 U.S. Hwy 441, Leesburg, FL. On Sunday, October 27th from 12p.m. to 5p.m.

I hope this gives you a few ideas for October events. Check the October newsletter for the upcoming Halloween party here at Lakeside Terrace. It looks like they are planning a good one, as usual! Happy October!!

EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES



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

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center Social Club 7 PM	7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool 6:30 PM G Bingo
6 1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre	7 7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo	8 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center	7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool 6:30 PM G Bingo
13 1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre	14 7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo <i>Columbus Day</i>	15 1 PM Guys n Gals 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center	7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool 6:30 PM G Bingo
20 1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre	21 7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo	22 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center	7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool 6:30 PM G Bingo
27 1 PM Billiards 6 PM Euchre Feeding the Homeless Donations	28 7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool Aerobics 1 PM Wii Bowling 5 PM Bingo Feeding the Homeless Meal Assembly 8 AM	29 10 AM Burrys Pharmacy 1 PM Billiards 2 PM Left, Right, Center	7 AM Exercise with Peg 10 AM Pool 6:30 PM G Bingo

ER 2024

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

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Pool Aerobics</p> <p>Grandma's</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1 PM Mahjongg</p> <p>1 PM Shuffleboard</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg</p> <p>10 AM Pool Aerobics</p> <p>1 PM Billiards</p> <p>6:30 PM Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Pool Aerobics</p> <p>Grandma's</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Noon ELS Cowboy Cookout</p> <p>1 PM Mahjongg</p> <p>1 PM Shuffleboard</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg</p> <p>10 AM Pool Aerobics</p> <p>1 PM Billiards</p> <p>6:30 PM Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Pool Aerobics</p> <p>Grandma's</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1 PM Mahjongg</p> <p>1 PM Shuffleboard</p> <p>Birthday Party 5 PM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg</p> <p>10 AM Pool Aerobics</p> <p>1 PM Billiards</p> <p>Book Club 2 PM</p> <p>6:30 PM Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Pool Aerobics</p> <p>Grandma's</p>	<p>24</p> <p>1 PM Mahjongg</p> <p>1 PM Shuffleboard</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7 AM Exercise with Peg</p> <p>10 AM Pool Aerobics</p> <p>1 PM Billiards</p> <p>6:30 PM Grandma's Bingo</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Pool Aerobics</p> <p>Grandma's</p>	<p>31</p> <p>1 PM Mahjongg</p> <p>1 PM Shuffleboard</p> <p>Halloween</p>		

Iconically Famous Last Words

Rich McFadden



- "Leave the gun; take the cannoli" -Fat Clemenza in The Godfather
- "You can't roller skate in a buffalo herd." -Roger Miller, singer/songwriter
- "I don't remember where I was." -President Richard Nixon, several years after the assassination of President John F Kennedy (It is now known that Nixon was in Texas, at the home of a Texas millionaire.)
- "We're going to make America great again." -President Donald Trump (Still waiting . . .)
- "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." - President John F Kennedy
- "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do." -Jesus Christ, crucified by Roman law
- "I'm not your father." -Darth Vader (as he might have responded to Luke Skywalker's paternity suit.)
- "My mama always said life was like a box of chocolates; you never know what you're gonna get." -character Forrest Gump, in the

movie Forrest Gump

- "One small step for a man; one giant leap for mankind." -Astronaut Neil Armstrong, Apollo 1 Moon Landing, 1969
- "Believe only half of what you see and none of what you hear." -LST Motto
- "If you tell a lie often enough, it becomes the truth." -Says the Liar (attributed to Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels.)
- "You can fool all of the people some of the time and some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." -President Abraham Lincoln
- "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee." -Heavyweight Boxing Champ Muhammad Ali
- "We hold these truths to be self evident . . . all men are created equal . . ." -President Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence
- "Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas any more." -Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz
- "Houston, we have a problem." -in the movie Apollo 13, from the words of astronauts Jack Swigart (Okay, Houston, we've had a problem here.) and Jim Lovell (Ah, Houston, we've had a problem.)

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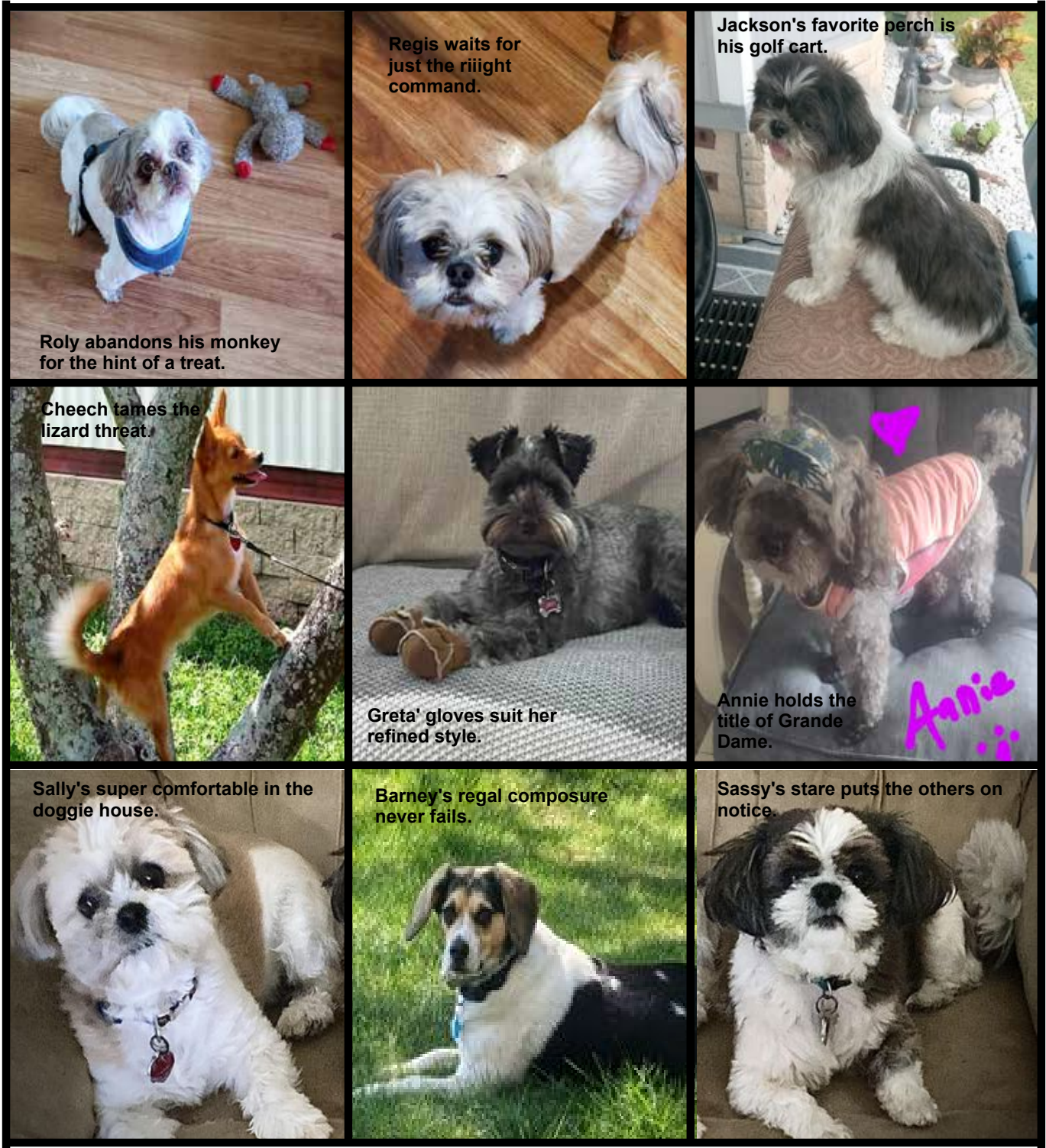
Episode 3 The REAL Residents of Lakeside Terrace

The population of the Doggie House has exceeded expectation. When proposed, this project was untested, but viewers have proven its popularity. The Cat House is admittedly less full than the Doggie House, but producers are committed to equal opportunity cat capacity.

Episodes 4 and 5 are filming, but it remains to be seen if the network will renew the final two episodes. Air time may be difficult to find, but the producers are hopeful.

Still to come: Episode 4, All In at the Dog House planned for November

Still to come: Episode 5, The Cat House—at Last, planned for December



Thank You
Rock Fairy

For the months of joy
and fun you have
brought to our
community.



Turning Pages

Carol Roberts



The Sisterhood: The Secret History of Women at the CIA confirms much of what you might suspect about the CIA and the government in general.

Written by Liza Mundy, the book covers seventy years detailing the old-boy networks and the misogyny female CIA agents faced from the conceptualization of the department up to the recent past (and probably the present.) What is also revealed is a system of recruitment and promotion based, in its earliest days, on privilege, wealth, and influence; graduates were routinely recruited from the Ivies—Brown, Yale, Harvard, Columbia. At “The Farm,” where agents learned their craft, male trainees joined the ranks of future operatives, but females did a “short course,” shunting them into support jobs. Given their background of elite education, secret societies, fraternal organizations, and generational influence, the early founding members of the CIA created a macho, competitive, misogynist culture fueled by toxic masculinity.

Through detailed interviews, Mundy reveals the treatment of women recruits. Even though many were top graduates, lured by promises of international travel and adventure, they were automatically denied the full case-officer certification that would have provided equal compensation with their fellow male trainees. The prevailing culture kept women “in their place,” indoors and behind the scenes. There, they served as clerks in finance and personnel. They processed cables, edited reports, composed and edited memos for their male counterparts. They were tasked with gathering and synthesizing data and information about sources. They earned the derisive nickname “sneaker ladies” as they were constantly hurrying from one office to another—all in the background. High heels, as most secretaries felt compelled to wear, simply wouldn't work in the basement vaults where records were kept.

Women, in fact, were a critical force in the CIA from its beginning, and Mundy exposes their treatment. Even as they were overlooked and disregarded, cruelly dismissed and brutally objectified, some fought their way into field operations. Although proven very successful, they remained virtually

ignored by their superiors in favor of their male counterparts. Mundy uses the stories of these women in creating a chronological narrative of their fight for equality. Heidi August, for example, started her career as a clerk, but through sheer stubbornness eventually was permitted to finish her course at “The Farm” and became one of the first female overseas station chiefs. Lisa Manfull Harper similarly waited ten years before being allowed to complete her certification. Both, like many others, went on to be highly successful agents, deftly managing their “assets” and gathering significant useful intelligence.

Their names unknown, Sandra Grimes, Jeanne Vertefeuille, and Diana Worthen were the women who, from 1985 to his capture, searched for and finally identified CIA agent Aldrich Ames as the Russian “mole” whose treason compromised over 100 intelligence operations and enabled the execution of ten sources. The FBI took credit, Mundy writes.

When in 1986, the agency established “Alec Station” to specialize in counterterrorism, it was staffed almost completely by the so-called “sneaker ladies.” Their experience in data analysis allowed them to trace and map networks—connecting individuals, interpreting discrete information, and tracking the finances and movements of emerging dangerous radicals, the Islamic militants. Dismissed as “girls” and “a bunch of chicks,” CIA and government leaders were not interested in their warnings of attacks on the US by a disparate group calling itself al Qaeda. Four of these women, Gina Bennett, Cindy Storer, Jennifer Matthews, and Barbara Sude went on to spend the bulk of their careers focused on al Qaeda and its leader Osama bin Laden. By 1993, Gina Bennet wrote her first memo about Osama bin Laden and his network of terrorists; Cindy Storer wrote several presidential briefs of the same nature.

Written in 2001 and ignored by those closest to power, it was Sude's August 6 intelligence memo that accurately predicted the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11. After 9/11, as the government focused on Saddam Hussein in Iraq, Bennett, Matthews, Storer, and Sude, now joined by analyst Nada Bakos, continued their targeting of bin Laden and his contacts. In 2009, Matthews was killed by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan. It took two more years, May of 2011, but their intelligence

Continued on page 16

gathering finally tracked bin Laden to Pakistan, determined his presence by analyzing drying laundry in the compound, and at last convinced superiors to alert the president. Barak Obama authorized the attack on bin Laden's compound.

In her book, Mundy not only shows the courage, persistence, and success of CIA women, she also records their revolts against the status quo. In 1977, Harritte Thompson won a lawsuit showing that, in the same jobs, women earned less, and men were promoted faster.

Divorced wives, and sometimes widows, were often denied any entitlement to their former or deceased husbands' pensions until the Foreign Service Act became law in 1981. In 1995, a federal sexual discrimination lawsuit, initiated by Janine Brookner, was settled after being joined to a class action suit involving over 200 officers. In the settlement, the CIA admitted that it had "discriminated systematically against its women secret agents for years." But Mundy writes that an era of change was definitely not in the offing. Retaliation against those involved in the suit meant that they were denied choice assignments; as one source said, "Nobody wanted them." Mundy's book seeks to highlight the positive and successful role of women in the intelligence sector and does not focus on the various horrors of "spycraft." Whether the end justifies the means is, arguably, the prime question in counterespionage. Mundy doesn't offer much to tackle this issue, nor does she record many of the women's thoughts. But as she focuses the conclusion of her book on the period after 9/11, she does reveal the roles of women involved in the scandals of kidnapping, black sites, and torture. Both Gina Haspel and Alfreda Bikowsky witnessed the "waterboarding" interrogation technique, and were no doubt aware of other "enhanced interrogation" measures like sleep deprivation, sexual assault, extreme confinement and stress positioning, forced nudity, psychological abuse, etc. Haspel's specific involvement includes authorizing the destruction of 92 videos of "enhanced interrogation" while chief of a black site prison in Thailand. Alfreda Bikowsky still defends the CIA's use of extraordinary rendition (kidnapping) and enhanced interrogation (torture) as appropriate and necessary in combating terrorism, despite internationally recognized illegality.

While the women in Mundy's book are heroic and admirable in their struggles for equality and

in their pursuit of terrorists, arguably they are equally culpable for the government-sanctioned abominations that followed.

Surely, one would think, governmental agencies would work together and support each other for a common good. But Mundy's book, as it describes relationships between the FBI and CIA, leans more toward the movie scenario of competing agencies with competing actors each seeking to discredit or outwit the other. Within the CIA, a male-dominated hierarchy of prestigious roles, divisions, and tasks fostered (and fosters?) almost cut-throat maneuvering toward advancement at the expense of colleagues and their work—and perhaps the country, one must speculate. *Note: The CIA has published responses to Mundy's book which can be viewed at <https://www.cia.gov/resources/csi/studies-in-intelligence/studies-in-intelligence-68-no-1-extracts-march-2024/reviews-two-perspectives-on-the-sisterhood-the-secret-history-of-women-at-the-cia>*

Amy in October

Jeanne Sullivan



It was early October. The seasons were beginning to change. The trees were dressed in their finery with leaves in shades of red and orange. She enjoyed watching the squirrels as they scampered about gathering acorns for the winter which was sure to come. Amy sat in the front porch rocker, her hands wrapped around an old mug. It was cool there on the porch. As she sipped the steaming tea, it warmed her inside and her weathered hands as she clasped them tightly around the cup. The moon was almost full. She could hear the croaking of frogs down at the pond. The candle in the window was burning low. She had been sitting there leisurely rocking since the sun went down. As the coolness started to creep into her bones, she supposed she had better go inside before she got a chill. She rose slowly from the creaky rocking chair. Her father had made it for her as a wedding present. So many years ago and it still rocks good, she thought. Once inside she laid more wood on the fire, wrapped a tattered afghan around her stooped shoulders, and stared into the flames. Where had all the years gone? She was no longer a young girl running and playing in the fields. She had loved the meadows where she could see the yellow

buttercups dancing in the wind, as if wind and flowers whispered the same tune. The farmhouse and the barn were in need of much patching. The roof of the barn leaked and all the stalls needed repair. The farmhouse, where she was born, needed painting. There was a broken window in the attic. She had patched it with cardboard several months ago. *I need a little patching myself*, she thought. The fields that had borne the crops of their existence lay fallow. There were no more animals to care for. She had sold them to the neighbors. There was no man here anymore. She was too old and fragile to do it herself, but she really didn't care. She lost interest five years ago, when her husband, Jerry, died two months short of his 78th birthday. She shivered a little and moved her chair closer to the fire. She should go to bed, she thought, but it was pleasant watching the flames wrap themselves around the burning logs. *I'll just sit here and close my eyes for a second*, she thought. It was warm and comforting by the fire. The night passed and the flames turned to glowing embers letting the cold creep in around the doors and windows. She felt the cold no longer. She thought she heard young Jerry call her name. She looked up, and there he was as handsome as

he had ever been. She raised her hand to her face to brush her hair away from her eyes, and it felt silky and long like it had been when she was young. He reached out his hand and said, "My sweet Amy, I have come to take you home." She willingly took his hand and with her other hand touched the face of God.

Happy OCTOBER Birthday

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The <Summer> Seagull

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Summer Editions = May thru Oct.

Contribution Deadline:

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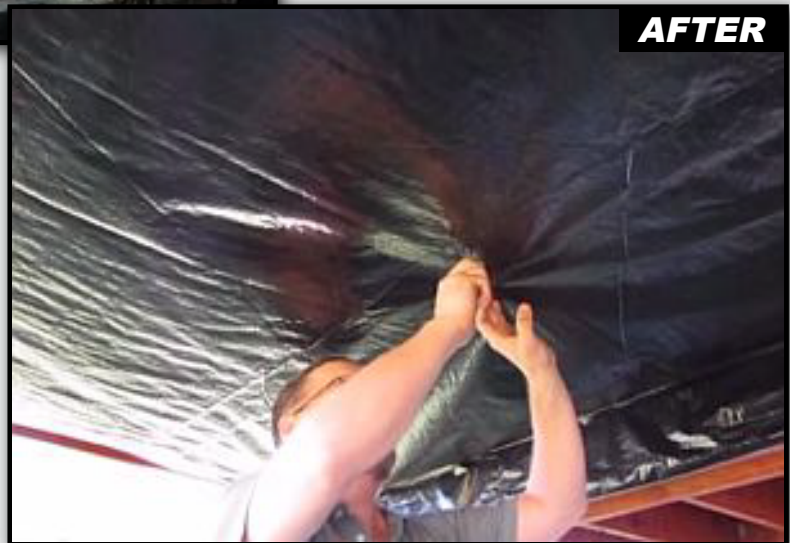
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