



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

November 1, 2022

Volume 11 Issue 11 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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lori@lightandlifepark.org

Office Assistant: Greg Thomas
Greg.t@lightandlifepark.org

Office Hours:

November 15-April 14: 8 am- Noon

April 15-November 14: 9 am - Noon

Lots Available for Lease

The following lots are set up for an RV or Park Model and available for lease

5332 Ebenezer Place
5325 Ebenezer Place
5321 Hebron Court
5323 Hebron Court

The following lots are available for a modular home to be put on them:

5359 Beulah Land
5885 Shiloh Path

Call the Park Office at 863-858-7504 for information.

News from the Park Administrator

I must start with a word of Thanksgiving. In early October, Gloria, Janice Augsbury, Lori Jones, and I were in a car accident in which my car was totaled. Although Lori and Janice had serious injuries, no one was critically injured, and everyone is alive and will heal! When talking with the other occupants of the car, they all mention how they thank Jesus every day that they did not suffer more serious injuries. The Lord's hand was certainly protecting us. I am thankful!

The damage caused in the Park by hurricane Ian was minimal. However, there was a great deal of debris scattered throughout the Park. With the help of staff and many volunteers, the debris around the residences has been picked up. However, there are still many trees down and debris in some of the open areas of the Park. Once we have more people here, we will begin cleaning up those areas.

One of the most frustrating results of the storm is that the rain revealed some weaknesses in Frontier's telephone system. This resulted in four of our lines being down for at least a week: the fax line, the gate (we had to have the gate open during that time), and the Hood Hall alarm systems. The phone lines are now operational again. As a result of the outage, I am considering other solutions to the various lines so that the weakness in Frontier's copper-delivered system (which is being phased out) does not negatively affect us again.

During the cleanup, there was a sight that most of you did not see. Because the black dump truck cannot be driven and we still needed its dumping capability, the truck was pulled by the tractor. For some of the cleanup, there was a three-vehicle train: the tractor was pulling the dump truck to which the woodchipper was attached. It was quite the unusual looking procession. That spectacle pointed out that we needed some better system. With the help of residents doing some leg work and Board members coming together, we purchased a 16' dump trailer. We are planning to use the trailer, not only for picking up debris in the Park, but also to haul the construction-dumpster-type trash to the transfer station. Making that a reality will take some time. As we put all the necessary pieces together, we will provide additional information.

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The Park, like usual this time of year, is starting to fill up again. That means there are more cars, bicycles, and pedestrians on the roadways. Please help keep everyone safe. Follow the speed limit of 15 mph and observe stop signs.

There is a dumpster in the trash area that is for recycling corrugated cardboard. It is important that the only thing placed in that dumpster is corrugated cardboard, and that it be broken down **flat**. Make sure that you break down and flatten all boxes before placing them in that dumpster; that leaves more space for others who have cardboard to recycle. Also, do not put recyclable corrugated cardboard in the regular trash dumpsters.

There have not been any changes to report about the potential land purchases we are considering. When there are changes, I will keep you informed. Please continue to be in prayer.

It is easy to be thankful when you survive an auto accident like the four of us did and you realize how much worse it could have been. As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, remember that we are admonished to “give thanks in all circumstances”—even during the hard times. So, I challenge us to find those many things for which we can be thankful despite the difficulty we might be experiencing. Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday!

Jan

Office Manager

November is here and October has blown through us. We have survived hurricane winds, an accident that stormed our people, illnesses, and death. God is carrying us through all of our storms, and we continue to face what will come next. We have been experiencing some fall weather in Michigan and vowing not to come this late again. It has been good to see some faces that we normally see in Florida and know we will all be gathering again there soon.

As the winter season approaches, the office staff (those that are there) is working to get ready. November will mean ordering supplies so if you oversee an event for which you need placemats or napkins, please let us know.

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We are seeking calendars and pens and will order them soon. Also, the directories will be printed as soon as I return on November 8th.

Property sales are somewhat in a slump because all available ones have sold, and others take place before even getting listed. We are still in a status of needing to sell to Free Methodist members.

Guest Rooms and Cabins are being readied for holiday and seasonal guests. We are thankful that we can have a few places available for people to stay.

Just a reminder about things you want to get rid of but you think someone else could use. There are specific places to dispose of your still good items. See the article here in the Newsletter. The place to put things is NOT on Hood Hall tables with a “free” note. Use the guidelines or donate them to a thrift store of your choosing. If they are left on the tables, they will be thrown away.

Our Park is a special place and I hope you all appreciate it as much as I do. Remember to care for one another in any way that you can. You don’t know what tomorrow will bring.

Love on one another even if you think someone is in the wrong. Let us in the office know about the problems you see and not your neighbors. Don’t repeat what you have heard from someone else. It may not be true, or the facts may be different than you think. Gossip is easy to jump into but can lead to much hurt or damage.

You may think it is strange that I would talk about these things, but we encounter them every day and after the many close calls, hurt people and losses of the past month, I have been thinking about how much we should be reminded of them.

I look forward to being back in Florida where the temperatures are more comfortable for me. I’m sure November will have its challenges, but with God to support us we will manage. When November blows out, the hurricane season will be done, and we will be ready for the winter season with our seasonal residents.

*Blessings,
Sherry LaBrie*

Thanksgiving Dinner

The time for celebrating will be here before you know it. If you plan to be in the park for Thanksgiving, plan to eat at Hood Hall, Nov.24, 12 noon. It will be in "potluck" form, but please let us know you are coming by signing up.

There will be a sign-up sheet in Hood Hall on the Credenza. We ask that, with your name, you indicate what kind of dish you can provide, and how many in your party. Family and Friends are welcome.

Help to set up on Wed. the 23rd, at 10:30 am, would be appreciated. Thank you.

Barb Nelson
CoOrdinator



Shuffleboard

With the rainy season coming to an end and with cooler temperatures, we will resume meeting at the shuffleboard courts Mondays at 1:00 pm and Thursdays at 6:30 pm. The courts are all washed and ready, so we are looking forward to playing again.

Everyone is welcome whether you have played many times or not at all. There will be someone at the courts each time to help you learn the game or answer any questions you might have. It is a grand way to meet people and enjoy good fellowship. We are looking forward to a new fun filled shuffleboard season.



Pictorial Directory 2023

The Church/Park is doing a pictorial directory in 2023 with Color Craft Co. Pictures will be taken in two different sessions. The first session will be Jan. 12-14 and these pictures will be ready for review Jan. 24-25. The second session will be Jan. 26-28 with pictures ready for review Feb. 7-9.

Marva Peck is doing the scheduling for the photo sessions. There are two ways to schedule your photo shoot. There will be a table set up after church starting in December, **OR** you can Text Marva, starting today, at **863-393-4191** and she will give you a specific time and date. The reviewing will be set by the photographer when your picture is taken. We plan to fill up the first session first so if you plan to be here by January 12, please let Marva know.

Pat Wilkins & Barb Hartson

News from the Board of Directors

Two events have affected our Light and Life Park in recent weeks and have again confirmed God is watching over our Park. First, Hurricane Ian came through our area of Florida but left no one injured and no major damage to property in the Park. Certainly, there is much clean-up to be done, and minor repairs, but it could have been far worse than it was. Through the efforts of the Park Staff and many resident volunteers, much of the clean-up has been done. Many thanks to all those who helped with this task.

Secondly, Stan and Gloria, Lori Jones and Janice Augsbury were involved in a serious auto accident a few days ago which totally destroyed Stan's car. Gloria had only minor injuries, but Stan had injuries to his back and Lori and Janice were hospitalized with more serious injuries. Both ladies are home now, but this could easily have resulted in loss of life to these members of our office staff. Praise be to God that they all survived. Thank you for all those who have been praying for them and their speedy recovery.

Marie and I are busy preparing to leave Michigan and will be at the Park the first week in November. We look forward to seeing each of you and enjoying another winter in Florida.

Jim Falconer

Board President



Bucket Listers



We are so excited and truly blessed that we still have a park to return to this fall! He truly did spare us one more time. We are starting to count the days until we return to the park. We are excited to renew old friendships and explore new friendships. It is one of our goals to make Light and Life Park a welcoming environment for all residents.

Don't forget the Light and Life Park's Craft Show December 9, 2022. The Bucket Listers will be selling gourmet popcorn and hosting a hot dog lunch on Friday of the show.

Tuesday nights in January, February and March the Bucket Listers will be hosting either a night of trivia or a movie. Refreshments will be available each night for a donation.



CHRISTMAS CRAFT & BAKE SALE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH @ HOOD HALL
(Set Up will be Thursday Afternoon)
Contact Becky Smith to reserve your FREE table
becsmith62@gmail.com or text 231.349.2993

2023 50th Wedding Anniversary
February 10, 2023

To date, I only know of 6 couples at our Park that will be celebrating their 50th anniversary at our Open House on February 10th, 2023. If you do hear of any other couple, please let me know. 734-646-8080, bks4545@gmail.com

Brenda Stockwell
50th Anniversary Open House Chair

Aquafit Water Aerobics

All are welcome to come & enjoy fun in the sun with a low-impact workout in the water to enhance health & wellbeing. Routines are choreographed to music and designed to promote improved muscle strength, endurance, flexibility & core balance without the stress of land exercise.

Splash times are offered, twice weekly, and free of charge. Currently we are not on a "set" day of the week due to weather conditions. Updates are posted on L&L Facebook and Neighborhood News. Kindly share this with your friends!

Beautification Parade
2023

February 23, 2023
(Rain date is the 24th)
Theme is Bible Stories
Luncheon in Hood Hall following parade.

Bowling

Bowlers...If you are even the least bit interested in bowling come join the Park league starting in January.

We will have our organizational meeting on January 2nd, 1 PM, Hood Hall.

We will start league bowling January 3rd, 1 PM, Orange Bowl Lanes. **But...**up until January 1st we will be practicing at 10 AM on Wednesdays. Come join us



Barb Hartson
bfhartson@gmail.com

Stamps for Missions

All donated stamps are sent to Alliance Stamp Ministry in Fort Myers** where they are sold to dealers. The money is sent to a publisher in Buenos Aires, Argentina where they publish Sunday school material in Spanish that are sold to at least eight Latin American Countries as well as Spain and the US. They are used by over 40 Protestant Denominations.

Try to leave at least 1/4 inch or more around each stamp or strip of stamps.

They now collect picture post cards both unused and used. If used, please leave the stamps on the cards. Thank you.

The container is in **Hood Hall** for your convenience.

If you would be willing to deliver them, contact Colleen Sellers for information.

Thank you.

****Please pray for the Fort Myers ministry. They are not reachable since the hurricane.**

Colleen Sellers

A note about pop/soda cans:

Thank you for saving your aluminum cans which are taken by us to a recycling center in east Lakeland. The money received is being used to buy benches for the Park.

I am happy to pick up your pop/soda cans to haul to the Recycling Center, however it will make my job a lot easier if you remember the cans from canned goods **CANNOT** go in with the aluminum pop cans. These are picked up by someone else and need to be kept separate.

There is a bin in the metal recycling collection center near the dumpsters which is marked "POP CANS"--that's the one to use!

Thanks for your help.

Wes Crist

2023 CPC golf tournaments!

Two-man scramble Tournament
Jan 13, 2023 (Friday)

Ladies Four-person Scramble
Jan 20, 2023 (Friday).

Club Championship Tournament
Feb 3, 2023 (Friday)

Ladies Club Championship
Feb 24, 2023 (Friday)

Two-man Blind draw tournament
March 10, 2023 (Friday)

Three club Co-Ed tournament
April 1, 2023 (Saturday)

The Player's Club
Ed Stockwell
517 861-0481

edstockwell48@gmail.com

Medical Equipment Available

Maxwell Commons at The Villa has some medical equipment available that can be borrowed by any Park resident. Call someone you know in the Villa to help you. Please sign out the equipment you are borrowing. There are wheelchairs, walkers, rollators, portable pots, and shower seats. Please notify a Villa member when you are returning an item, so we know it has been returned. Please don't leave it on the porch. We are not presently accepting any equipment donations due to lack of storage space.

Park Wide Field Day

Save the date: February 18, 2023
Theme: "Laughter Makes Good Medicine."
All day activities for everyone.

Morning golf, Lunch with a humorous speaker, and an afternoon of fun and games.

Something great to look forward to.



Cliff and Carolyn Nicholas

Fellowship Dinners

The November Fellowship Dinner/Program will be Monday, November 7 at Hood Hall. The dinner will begin at 5:30 with the program following at 6:15.

Carol Zeller has planned fun "Around the World" entertainment. This evening is a wonderful opportunity to spend time visiting with others during the meal; bring a large dish to share. Some prefer to arrange the menu in advance for their table of eight people. Your place settings can be put out that afternoon with reserved areas for program participants closest to the stage.

Residents with last name beginning A through M will do the set-up and clean-up.

Fellowship Dinner/Program Committee
Marilyn Stone



Talbot House Ministry

The ongoing deliveries of prescription bottles, unused medicines, good clean clothing that you no longer use and small household items is an ongoing project. Please continue to save these helpful items for the homeless shelter and the Good Samaritan Clinic. Please deliver them to the Whipple's porch at 5866 Deeson Road any time. Jean will get them delivered.

Jean will take your items on Wednesdays. PLEASE leave things in Jean's screened porch any day just inside the door. Thank you.

Should you wish to send financial assistance to this work, the address: 814 North Kentucky Avenue, Lakeland.

Newsletter Deadline

Please be sure that your submissions to **The Life and Times** are delivered to the newsletter editor, Barb Hartson or former editor, Sherry LaBrie, by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Please use this email: bfhartson@gmail.com (Barb Hartson) or sherry.loflin69@yahoo.com (Sherry LaBrie). Email is the preferred method. You may also drop your submissions off at the Park Office. **The December** deadline is **November 15**.

Where to Donate your Goods

The donations given at the Park to help others are appreciated. We want to remind you where to take your donations.

Food donations for Briarwood may be left on the designated table in Hood Hall.

We will not be accepting "linens" for Senior Orphans until 2023.

Jean Whipple takes several items to Talbot House weekly. See that article in this newsletter for details.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Gadabout News

I have taken over as coordinator for the ladies' events from Peggy Dunn and Vernetta Dunn. They will still help when they can. Also, Lana Kendall, Barb Hartson, Ruth Bridgeforth will be helping too.

We are looking forward to another season here in the Park next year. Lord willing, I will be back mid-November to first of December. We welcome your input on other places to go.

GAD-ABOUTS TRIPS 2023

January 12 - Ringling Museum of Art, Circus & Bayfront Gardens, Sarasota
January 26 - Lavender & Lace Tea Room, Lake Alfred

February 09 - Old Testament Tabernacle in the Wilderness, Tarpon Springs
February 23 - Flea Market, TBA

March 09 - Strawberry Festival Senior Day, Plant City
March 23 - Bok Singing Tower & Gardens, Lake Wales

For more information contact me. Prefer text or email to calls.

Flo Grabowski
Cell 931-797-2639
[Email coachfollc@gmail.com](mailto:Email_coachfollc@gmail.com)



Library Information



Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

Something a little different

In February, Maryland's Silver Spring Library received a big surprise in the mail when a former patron mailed back an illustrated copy of *The Postman ...* more than 70 years after it had been checked out.

The book was returned with a letter attached, in which the sender explained that her family had checked the book out in 1946, when she was just a toddler. "The family then moved to Canada on short notice and the book was packed up with everything else," according to the library.

Though it's rare, the decades-overdue book's return is not unprecedented. Here are 11 more tardy returns.

1. *The Versatile Grain and the Elegant Bean: A Celebration of the World's Most Healthful Foods* by Sheryl and Mel London

LOANED FROM: The Lawrence Public Library in Lawrence, Kansas

YEARS OVERDUE: 21

In 2014, someone anonymously returned this fitness-friendly cookbook, which had been missing since September 24, 1992. The volume, published that April, contains over 300 recipes—and it's probably safe to assume that the culprit had plenty of time to try out every single one of them.

2. *The Real Book About Snakes* by Jane Sherman

LOANED FROM: The Champaign County Library in Urbana, Ohio

YEARS OVERDUE: 41

Like the previous entry, whoever turned in this musty old field guide declined to reveal his name. But lest anyone question the man's honesty, he also left the following note: "Sorry I've kept this book so long, but I'm a really slow reader! I've enclosed my fine of \$299.30 (41 years, 2 cents a day). Once again, my apologies!"

3. *Days and Deeds: A Book of Verse for Children's Reading and Speaking* compiled by Burton and Elizabeth Stevenson

LOANED FROM: The Kewanee Public Library in Kewanee, Illinois

YEARS OVERDUE: 47

According to Guinness World Records, the \$345.14 fee paid by the borrower of this lyrical compilation stands as the highest library fine ever paid.

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4. *The Fire of Francis Xavier* by Arthur R. McGratty

LOANED FROM: The New York Public Library, Fort Washington Branch, in New York, New York
YEARS OVERDUE: 55

In 2013, this one was discreetly mailed in and the perpetrator was never brought to justice (be on guard, Big Apple bibliophiles).

5. *The Adventures of Pinocchio* by Carlo Collodi

LOANED FROM: The Rugby Library in Warwick, England

YEARS OVERDUE: 63

The item found its way home during an eight-day "fines amnesty period," which shielded the guilty patron from a £4000 penalty (which would have been about \$6500). "It's amazing to think how much the library has changed since that book was taken out in 1950," said librarian Joanna Girdle.

6. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde

LOANED FROM: The Chicago Public Library in Chicago, Illinois

YEARS OVERDUE: 78

Harlean Hoffman Vision found a rare edition of this novel nestled amongst her late mother's personal effects and vowed to set things right. "She kept saying, 'You're not going to arrest me?'" recalled marketing director Ruth Lednicer at the time, "and we said, 'No, we're so happy you brought it back.'"

And this is only half, you won't believe number 11, more next month!

Therapy Dogs

Stressed out Yale students used to be able to go to the university's Lillian Goldman Law Library to check out General Montgomery, a.k.a. Monty, an adorable border terrier mix and certified therapy dog, for 30 minutes of companionship. Once he became a respectable senior citizen, Monty retired to a life of well-earned relaxation and alas has since passed on to the great dog kennel in the sky.



Happy Reading!

**Light and Life
Free Methodist Church**

5730 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: (863) 858-6361

Fax (863) 858-3982

Email: church@lfmc.org

Pastor: Chuck Frankenfeld
Evangelism & Outreach: Jeff Bellinger
Secretary: Pam Hill

Briarwood Outreach

We love our Pastors and friends at L&L who have always supported the feeding of the poor, and teaching the children about Jesus. Thank all of you who have supported these ministries over the years. The next big event will be Thanksgiving turkeys with all the fixings for 34 families in Briarwood.

Light & Life is no longer accepting or forwarding donations for these ministries through the church, so, after your tithe, please consider donating as below.

Donations for the Food Pantry and Children's Ministries need to be made out to:
Northside Assembly - 411 W Robson Rd, Lakeland FL 33805
c/o Pastor Randy and footnoted for either Food Pantry or Children's Ministry.

Food Pantry donations will help get Thanksgiving dinners, and Children's Ministry donations will help get Christmas presents for about 54 Briarwood kids shortly thereafter. Michael and I will continue to take donations, but they will be sent through Northside for transparency and accountability.

We still do not have a supplier for meats or produce for the Food Pantry, so please continue praying we find an outlet soon!

Thanks to Karen and Earl Wright and their team of helpers, Michael Gardner, our newest addition, who does the weekly online shopping, and all of you who donate through-out the year.

We could not continue the Food Pantry or Children's Ministry to Briarwood without you!

Randy Williams

A Note from Pastor Chuck...

For October we worked our way through the book of James on Sunday mornings. A particular verse sticks in my mind, "Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness." James 3:18

As we now enter November we remember "harvesting and Thanksgiving." So...how do we reap a harvest of righteousness for which we can be thankful? By being peacemakers who sow peace. I like that....sow peace. Form an image of sowing...sowing peace. We are to be cultivators, sowers and spreaders of peace not planting seeds of anger, anxiety or annoyance. Let us instead deliberately encourage, strengthen, and build-up one another. This month set aside whatever it is that irritates you and instead hear the quiet gentle voice of the Holy Spirit as you are guided to righteously helping one-another to His honor.



In Christ
Pastor Chuck

Shoebox Ministry

The annual drive to fill "Samaritan's Purse" Shoeboxes is underway. Pam Hill will be setting up a table in Hood Hall for the boxes (shoebox size). Fill a box with small, useful items (lists will be made available in Hood Hall) or donate money (checks payable to Samaritan's Purse). Also, we would appreciate help to fill the boxes during the week of November 14. If you have any questions, contact Pam 863-808-3779 or during church office hours 863-858-6361. There are many ways to do your part to help a child in need.

