

the Lake Breeze

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IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Due to the Covid virus there will not be a Winter Social in 2021.

President's Letter

We hope you are all safe and health whether you are sheltering here at the lake or in a warmer climate. This has been a quiet year to become co-presidents of the LBA, since few activities can be held. It was disappointing to have to cancel the spring dinner, fireworks, fall dinner and the winter social. We held the 2021 Strategic Planning meeting on Zoom on Saturday, January 16, with the LBA Board of Directors. Our meeting was very productive with some new initiatives for the coming year. We anticipate that we will be unable to hold the spring dinner, but we are hopeful to be able to have the Fall Dinner and Annual Meeting. Time will tell.

Several new initiatives were added to the 2021 Strategic Plan:

- o Monitoring Obituaries/Condolences as well as positive news about lake residents to share with others
- o Develop a plan for Association Park improvements
- o Create Trail Maps for members to enjoy hikes around the lake
- o Collaborate with the city on improvements to the surrounding areas of the lake, including the installation of signage to direct visitors to the boat launch, marina, parks, inner loop, etc.
- o **Work with McLean County to add safety markings on the Ron Smith Highway shoulder.**

Please see the entire 2021 Strategic Plan on the LBA Website for the goals and other initiatives.

We want to thank Joe Darter for joining our Strategic Planning meeting to share what the city will be doing in our area during 2021. Please see his article in this newsletter.

We were deeply saddened to hear of the recent passing of Jerry Martoglio. He loved his work at the lake and had many fishing stories to tell to anyone who would listen. He was on the Unit 5 school board when Lynette was a principal, and he was always so supportive of education. In his work out here, he would always stop to talk when he was taking his drive through the inner loop. His presence will be missed!

We have also learned of the death of other former or current Lake Bloomington residents in the past few months. We want to send our sympathies to their families. Michael Kirchner, a 30 year resident, passed away on November 27, 2020, in



Pewaukee, Wisconsin. Lois Mills passed away on December 2, 2020, in Oregon, Wisconsin. Patricia Stevens, who worked for more than 30 years at Green Gables, passed away on December 30, 2020, in Normal. Joan Sayler "Jobie" Tick, Passed on January 23, 2021 in Tucson, AZ. If you know of other lake residents who have passed away that we should acknowledge, please let us know.

We would like to encourage you to take advantage of the Chlorine Tablet program here at the lake and have your septic tanks checked periodically. We have lived here 21 years, so after

hearing information at a LBA board meeting on how important it is to take care of the septic tank, we had someone come out to service the system. Amazingly, there were not any problems, because the recommendation is to pump the tank every 3-5 years. Chlorine tablets are easy to add to your tanks each month and will also help maintain the water quality of our lake. Please consider doing this and having your septic system checked. Please contact Neil Finlen for your free chlorine tablets.

We are truly enjoying the lake this winter (even though we would rather be somewhere warm). Our regular walks through the inner loop gets us out of the house to enjoy the nature. The funniest sight so far this winter was seeing a deer chase a cat! You never know what you will see out here! Enjoy the sights of our wonderful setting as we look forward to spring and COVID-19 vaccines!

Stay safe and healthy!

RICK AND LYNETTE MEHALL
LBA Co-Presidents



Save the Date

Spring Clean Up
April 24th

The LBA Beautification Committee will be holding this year's Spring Clean Up on April 24th from 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Please contact Dave Turner to sign up.

Turner044@comcast.net
(309) 826-4730

January 20, 2021

Dear Residents,

As I sit in front of my computer to write this, I am listening to the inauguration of a new administration. Each speaker has spoken eloquently of our shared commitment to each other, of our shared responsibility to our community and that we have more to be thankful for than ever before. Of this latter part, I am constantly reminded of how thankful I am to be able to work with each of you in this beautiful community of ours. Like all of you, I never take a day at Lake Bloomington for granted.

I would like to thank those that have completed the 2021 boat dock registration. I know this year was a little different with using the Seamless Docs webpage but overall, I think it has been a great success. I would also like to thank those that mailed in your registration paperwork. I could not have hoped for a smoother process this year. For those that have not completed the registration, please go to <http://cityblm.seamlessdocs.com/f/BoatDockReg> to complete the registration process and upload your proof of liability insurance. For those that would like to print out a paper copy and mail it to me, along with your proof of liability insurance, please visit <https://www.cityblm.org/home/showdocument?id=23577>. After completing the registration via the website or mailing me the paperwork, please call 309-434-2426 to make your payment or mail a check to City Hall along with the invoice.

The City contracts with Republic Service to provide garbage pickup for each leased lot. The contract has expired, and a new three-year agreement was reached. Unfortunately, we were unable to prevent a cost increase, like the previous three years. For the first year, there will be a \$21.72 increase and then the second and third year will increase by 3.5%. This new garbage rate will be included in the upcoming lease bills that will be mailed out in the next couple of weeks. If your mailing address has changed in the last year, please contact me so that we can update your mailing address.

Lastly, I wanted to write about the passing of Jerry Martoglio. Jerry and I started on the same day with the City. I first met him while we were waiting to take our drug test and we immediately hit it off. Over the years, Jerry and I became very close and I relied on him for so much. Jerry was one of those people that was unflinchingly honest and direct, a trait that I admired greatly. I could always count on Jerry to provide a point of view that was always based on what was best for the Lake and for all the residents.

Jerry was able to walk through life wearing many different hats. He was an engineer, he was a Unit5 school board member, a school board president, worked with the Wounded Warrior project to provide veterans with a three day fishing tournament, established a fishing tournament to raise funds for St. Jude, worked with the IHSA fishing teams to promote youth fishing, helped establish the Friends of Everbloom, was active with the McLean County Sportsman Club but he wore no hat better than that of husband, father and grandfather. Everyday that Jerry came into work, he would proudly brag about his children and grandchildren. I never had the opportunity to meet his



Jerry and his daughter, Pam



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children and grandchildren but through Jerry, I knew what they liked, what they excelled at, and what he was most proud of them for. He was a true family man. Never a day went by that he was not proud of them.

When Jerry lost his wife of 55 years to cancer in 2019, I thought for sure that his time working for the City would end. But in typical Jerry-fashion, he worked through his grief the only way he knew how – time spent with his children and grandchildren and time spent on the lake. There were many a night that Jerry would sit in my office and we would talk about the enormity of grief that comes with great loss. I had lost my mother to cancer when I was twenty years old and our shared experience only tightened our bond. I hope that I was able to provide him some level of comfort in those dark days. I am sure that had the shoe been on the other foot, Jerry would have been one of the first ones to sit and comfort me.

Jerry's death has created a large void within our community, and I have struggled to find a way to honor him appropriately. I think it will be fitting to rename the North Park Nature Area in his honor. Jerry worked with us to get the area prepared to hopefully plant fifteen acres of wildflowers this coming spring. When his wife passed away, we planted a memorial tree in her honor in North Park, close to where the fireworks are released. We will be planting another tree next to his wife's tree this spring.

“But friendship is precious, not only in the shade, but in the sunshine of life, and thanks to a benevolent arrangement, the greater part of life is sunshine.” – Thomas Jefferson

From me and the entire Lake Parks crew, welcome to 2021 and we will see you all around the Lake!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph M. Darter'.

Joseph M. Darter
City of Bloomington | Property Manager
Public Works Department | Water Division
25515 Waterside Way | Hudson, IL 61748
Office: (309) 434-2431 | Cell: (309) 275-8087
Fax: (309) 434-2915 | Email: jdarter@cityblm.org

WELCOME

NEW LBA MEMBERS!!!



Gregory & Lisa Benoit
Thomas Carey & Megan Dortenzo
Carey & Angie Davis
Jeff Drake - El Paso Golf Club
Leslie & Van Friederich
Aaron & Cindy Hallead
Dan & Rose Harms
Kim & Allan Hart
Steve & Laurie Lange
Matt & Beth Powers
Barbara Rokos
Mike & Janet Rotz
Mark Schuler
Sean & Emily Siebring
Jackson & Jacob Sutton
Tim & Stephanie Wolfe





Winter Arrives



to Lake Bloomington!



Fireworks Donations

Please help our annual fireworks display tradition continue by donating.

Please complete the form below to help support and continue this great tradition at the Lake live on!

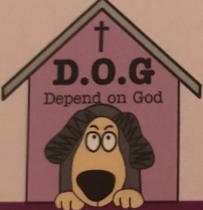
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please send this form & checks payable to:
LBA
P.O. Box 223
Hudson, IL 61748

 JIM SPACHMAN Agent 2501 E College Avenue, Suite A Bloomington, IL 61704-2484 Bus 309.661.1700 Toll Free 866.661.1700 Fax 309.663.1007 Cell 309.261.1890 jim@jimspachman.com jimspachman.com <i>24 Hour Good Neighbor Service</i>		 Ryan Esposito BROKER mobile - 309.275.4361 ryanesposito1981@gmail.com mcleancountyhomes.com <small>Remax Rising 501 S Towanda Barnes, Suite 2 Bloomington, IL 61705</small> 
 D.O.G. Depend on God UNDER GOD'S CARE 15502 E 2550 N Road Hudson, IL 61748 <i>Driving Directions on Back</i> Gaye's TLC Kennel Dog Boarding Rural Setting - State Licensed Flexible Check-In & Check-Out Times Long-Term Boarding Available Gaye Siebert (309) 726-1644 Est. 1996 2 miles W. of Lake Bloomington	 Al Rollins & Mike O'Grady P.O. Box 173, Hudson, IL 61748 (309) 530-2394 www.prairie-storage.com ogradymike1@gmail.com	



The Lake Bloomington Association is made up of residents and anyone else who enjoys the Lake and works to improve the lake and surrounding community. Anyone can join the LBA; you don't have to live at the Lake. It's a great way to meet new people who also enjoy Lake Bloomington. If you are interested in joining the LBA, or have questions or comments, please email us at lakebloomingtonassociation@gmail.com.