JAZETT SEPTEMBER 2020



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Thank you to Tom Mischke for the front page picture of this month's Gazette. The picture is a redition of the Highlands Ridge Pier painted in 2018 by his 15 year old granddaughter Lexi McMichael.

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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER?

Tue Thu Mon Fri Mon	Sept Sept Sept Sept Sept	1 3 7 7 11 14	MC HOA Meeting 10:00 am One Blood Drive 10 am to 3 pm Labor Day Office Closed Bulk Trash HR HOA Meeting 4:00 pm
Mon	Sept	14	HR HOA Meeting 4:00 pm
Fri	Sept	25	Bulk Trash

Note: Subject to change - please check your emails.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER?

Sun	Oct	4	Ice Cream Truck 2:00 pm
Tues	Oct	6	MC HOA Meeting 10:00 am
Fri	Oct	9	Bulk Trash
Sun	Oct	11	Ice Cream Truck 2:00 pm
Mon	Oct	12	HR HOA Meeting 4:00 pm
Tues	Oct	13	HR Residents Council 10:00 am
Sun	Oct	18	Ice Cream Truck 2:00 pm
Fri	Oct	23	Bulk Trash
Sun	Oct	25	Ice Cream Truck 2:00 pm

Note: Subject to change - please check your emails.



THE GAZETTE



Come out to Founder's Hall parking lot on Thursday, September 3, 2020 ~ 10am to 3pm to donate at the HR One Blood Drive! Please call the office at 863-471-1115 for an appointment.



Bocce Ball - supplies are in the shed
Shuffleboard Courts - supplies are in the shed
Horseshoe Pits - supplies are in the shed
Tennis Courts - bring your own water - no water coolers will be provided for your safety
Pickleball Courts - bring your own water - no water coolers will be provided for your safety
Basketball Hoop - we do have 2 basketballs that you can sign out if you don't have one
Corn Hole - we have 2 portable games call the office to sign out
Oversize Connect Four lawn game - we have 2 games call the office to sign out

Escape to:

harleston,

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Diamond Tours Presents: Charleston, South Carolina

5 Days 4 Nights February 8th—12th, 2021 Cost: \$685 Double Occupancy PP Insurance is available Cost: \$59 Per person Double Occupancy Call the office to sign-up



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Eastern Caribbean & Perfect Day

Royal Caribbean Cruise on the Harmony of the Seas

February 28, 2021—March 7, 2021

Call the office for more information and to sign up.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

THE GAZETTE



Cuisinart Propane Round Griddle. Excellent condition, used 5 times. \$65.00 Please call 863.273.1463 or 863.273.1905 Also for sale 4 chrome 10" golf cart hub caps \$15.00 Ken Faulk 863 382-9184 or Shirley 863 202-0936

Coleman Powermate Brigg & Stratton 10 hp Generator, (2) 5 gal. cans for sale. Make offer. (863) 257-7127 Harold Hooker

2018 Toyota Sienna XLE, 8 passenger V6 minivan, navigation, moonroof, leather, AM/FM CD player, blind spot monitoring, dynamic radar cruise control, lane departure alert, 19,500 miles, \$28,500, **Call 317-523-9383**

> 2012 Chevrolet Sonic LTZ \$7,500 obo 29,000 miles ,leather interior, turbo, sunroof, automatic, cruise, stereo with CD player, excellent condition call **Jim at 815 347-1375**

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Ellis, Basil & Nancy 3194 E Pebble Creek Dr Id_rather_be.golfing@yahoo.com (417) 230-3813 His (417) 230-4111

Friedmann, Robert 3413 E Glen Eagles Dr Catribfn1@prodigy.net (925) 550-9554

Landry, Robert & Karen

3424 E St Andrews Dr 1cc17hole@netzero.com (603) 848-9061 His (603-848-9069 Hers Miller, James 3560 E Glen Eagles

Monte, Richard & Judy 3247 E Pebble Creek Dr montejudy@yahoo.com (618) 207-1359

Neiford, Ray & Sabrina 3153 E Pebble Creek Dr rneiford@yahoo.com (567) 328-4308 His (419) 204-2874 Hers

Puskarich, Edward 3176 E Pebble Creek Dr

Taddeo, Paul & Sandra 4310 N Course Ln



IN ISVING MEMORY

> Jack Gorton Tom Gorton John Johnson James Kronyak

Don Valentine



Dirocco, Carman & Carol (570) 939-0067 (570) 939-0063 New phone numbers **Robinett, Ron & Cindy** (863) 273-1150 Ron (863) 273-1149 Cindy New phone numbers



Due to Covid-19 guidelines, there will not be any further scheduled meetings until next fall. There are plans for informal meetings over the summer and early fall. Members will receive notification by email. These meetings are limited in size and will be held outdoors according to existing guidelines.

Animal News Submitted by: Denise Beauparlant, *Resident*



Recently I have been asked by numerous people about our armadillo population. Here is some info that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Service was kind enough to send me to share with you. The nine-banded armadillo, named for the nine breaks in the leathery armor that allow it to flex its stiff hide, is an odd-looking mammal about the size of a cat. A mature armadillo is 15 to 17 inches long (not counting the tail) with a weight of 8 to 17 pounds.

This native mammal of southwestern North America has expanded its range into Florida. Introductions of armadillos also occurred along the east coast of Florida as early as the 1920s and in southern Alabama in the 1960s. Armadillos are now common throughout most of the state and are considered to be naturalized. Armadillos prefer forested or semi-open habitats with loose textured soil that allows them to dig easily. They eat many insects, other invertebrates, and plants. They are most active at night, and have very poor eyesight.

Armadillos can carry diseases such as St. Louis encephalitis, leptospires, arboviruses, and leprosy. Hence, why you should leave handling wildlife to the experts.

Armadillos dig burrows for their homes or to escape predators, and a single armadillo can have several different burrows with multiple entrances. Pregnant females always give birth to identical quadruplets. She produces one egg that splits into four identical offspring that are either all female or all male. This trait differs from most other mammals.

Armadillos are fascinating in other respects. When they need to cross narrow water bodies, they often walk on the bottom underwater. If it is a wide body of water, they will inflate their stomach to twice its normal size, allowing for enough buoyancy to swim across. When startled, armadillos often leap high into the air, and then run quickly to a nearby burrow.

Armadillos prolific rooting and burrowing can damage lawns and flower-beds. To reduce armadillo damage to your lawn, keep watering and fertilization to a minimum. Moist soil and lush vegetation bring earth worms and insect larvae to the surface of the soil. Armadillos can sometimes be enticed to move on by watering areas adjacent to the damage site. Also, watering gardens in the morning is preferable since the soil can dry out in the afternoon and not be as easily detected by noctournal armadillos. Armadillos are also particularly attracted to fermenting fruit. Remove fallen fruit to avoid attracting unwelcome wildlife. Harassing burrows causes animals to feel unsafe and can convince them to relocate on their own without additional intensive, and sometimes expensive, eradication efforts. Illuminate burrows with a bright spotlight, or flashlight, and/or put a radio in or near the hole, without blocking the animal from exiting.

It is lawful for a landowner to live-trap or humanely destroy nuisance armadillos, although they are difficult to capture with live traps. All live-captured nuisance armadillos must be euthanized, released on-site, or released on a property within the same county of capture, that is 40 acres or larger with written permission from the landowner. However, relocating wildlife is seldom biologically sound and the animal often does not survive. Captured non-target species are required to be released on site. To receive help with nuisance wildlife contact your local Fish and Wildlife office at 888-404-3922.



CLUB NEWS

THE GAZETTE

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Chorale News By: Karen O'Laughlin, *Secretary*



Hello to all! It's been a very long and strange summer. Hoping this finds you all healthy and ready to tackle the upcoming fall and winter. There's still a lot of Covid-19 around us so we have to still be diligent about our health and the health of others by continuing to wear our masks and do our social distancing.

I'm sure most everyone has heard we will not be having our annual Christmas concert this year in December. It broke our hearts to not sing for you in March and now it'll be even harder to not prepare for our Christmas program. We all still plan to sing for you again, we just don't know when that will be.

We are cautiously optimistic for our Spring Concert, but we are still unsure at this time. But should we be able to sing in the spring we will perform the program originally scheduled for last March, our 20th Anniversary.

We appreciate our Patrons and all those who support us in so many ways. Founder's Hall will once again come alive with songs from the Highlands Ridge Chorale as soon as we know it will be safe for all to do so. We need to continue to be patient, have hope, and remember to sing in the shower! We look forward to singing for you all again.



Chaplain's Chat By: Rev. Bill Commons, *Resident*



WHEN FOUNDATIONS ARE SHAKEN

The Covid 19 pandemic has everyone on edge. Fear infects us all. Authorities give conflicting advice. Everyone has different ideas of what we should do. Communities are in conflict. Elections intensify political debate.

Cultural norms are being discarded. American society is torn by conflicting trends. Traditional ethics and morals are in disarray:

Racial tensions are deliberately being inflamed; Socialism is taught in schools, becoming normalized; Rioting and violence are protected by authorities; Law enforcement, ICE and DHS are being demonized; Looting and robbery are defended as "reparations;" Science rules, but biology is ignored in gender studies; Moral depravity is promoted and championed; Political hatreds are encouraged and promoted; Incomes can be larger by not working than by working; Radical ideologies dominate education, media, entertainment, and politics; Good is called evil, and evil good.

How should we then live? What should we do?

Pray and seek the Lord, only He can give you inner peace in the midst of trouble. Do not be deceived or intimidated, vote your conscience. LISTEN respectfully to others' opinions, avoid useless arguments. Read the Psalms. Bless your neighbors.

"....My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." Jesus Christ, John 14:27

CLUB NEWS

Book Club News By: Mary Harden, *Resident*



Unfortunately, our April book club meeting was unavoidably cancelled due to the coronavirus. Since we didn't have an opportunity to discuss **The Dry Grass of August**, by Anna Jean Mayhew then, we will be doing so in October. That meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 15th and it would be great if we could have the luncheon meeting we missed in April!! All are welcome to join. I hope to see all our current members then. More details to follow.

On a scorching day in August 1954, thirteen-year-old Jubie Watt leaves Charlotte, North Carolina, with her family for a Florida vacation. Crammed into the Packard along with Jubie are her three siblings, her mother, and the family's black maid, Mary Luther. For as long as Jubie can remember, Mary has been there—cooking, cleaning, compensating for her father's rages and her mother's benign neglect, and loving Jubie unconditionally.

Bright and curious, Jubie takes note of the anti-integration signs they pass, and of the racial tension that builds as they journey further south. But she could never have predicted the shocking turn their trip will take. Now, in the wake of tragedy, Jubie must confront her parents' failings and limitations, decide where her own convictions lie, and make the tumultuous leap to independence . . .

Infused with the intensity of a changing time, *The Dry Grass of August* is a story of hope, heartbreak, and the love and courage that can transform us—from child to adult, from wounded to indomitable.

Library News By: Mary Harden, *Resident*

ge. I ommunity

A warm welcome to the new residents of Highlands Ridge. I hope that all of you have had a chance to "check out" your community library. We are very lucky to have such a large selection of reading material, magazines, videos, music, and puzzles available so close to home.

Our rules are simple, come anytime you please, borrow anything you like and (please) return it when you are done. We have a drop box by the front door for returns and a dedicated group of volunteers that keep things stacked and tidy!!

I would especially like to thank all of you that have donated so many new items for our library. It has been wonderful to see so many new releases arrive on our doorstep, practically hot off the press!

So, stop by and browse. There is something for everyone and the price is right!!

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

THE GAZETTE



Highlands Ridge HOA By: Linda Hathorn, *Secretary*



It is difficult to believe, that September is already upon us. The summer has flown by, albeit very quiet. There has been very little activity this summer, due to COVID 19. We have, however, been able to enjoy some outside activities.

During, the month of September a reminder notice will be mailed to residents that are delinquent in their Annual HOA Dues. The notice will be accompanied by an addressed return envelope for convenience. Any payments may be mailed or placed in the HOA mailbox outside Founders Hall. Any resident delinquent for 90 days will not have voting privileges.

Our next HOA meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14. The location and agenda will be sent out via, Constant Contact, before the meeting date.



Marina Cove HOA By: Susan Butrymowicz, *Vice President*



Just a couple of Marina Cove "for your information items"

There will be a MCHOA meeting September 1 – more details to follow.

The Horseshoe Tournament that was scheduled for Labor Day weekend has been cancelled due to the CDC guidelines. With the temporary suspension of activities, we don't have more Marina Cove news, so thought I would include a human-interest feature for this edition of the Gazette. We hear daily about the horrible numbers of Corona Virus cases including the mounting death toll. I wanted to speak out about some of the great life changes some of us have experienced as a result of the quarantine and subsequent lock down.

Cities are reopening. Lockdowns are lifting. And some people are starting to feel they can glimpse a return, however slow and partial, to "normal.". But the **<u>pandemic</u>** has changed us. Although being on lockdown has been pretty grueling, it may surprise you that many people have realized there are some things about quarantine life that are worth preserving. Living in quarantine for months has offered some a rare opportunity to reflect on their lives and, potentially, to reset them.

I made some outreach calls to friends, relatives and visited with some neighbors and asked them to tell me one positive impact the pandemic quarantine has made to their life and/or those of their families. Some of their responses may surprise you. Here are just a few which may start you thinking about your own family.

Several people noted that they plan to eat out less often at restaurants. Eating in during the lockdown has enabled them to save money, and some have discovered a taste for home-cooked meals. With no after school activities, Mom enjoyed cooking more because she had her whole family back around the kitchen table together to eat – no more separate meals.

Several grandparents said their grandchildren wanted to come and visit for a week. One couple said the grandkids came and Grammy confiscated all the tech toys and announced they could use them for two hours after taking a morning walk with her and grandpa. They could spend the afternoon in the pool, and then they would all gather for a dinner together. After dinner grandpa would take out the board games and introduce the kids to the NEW UNO, YATZEE, PHASE 1, DOMINOES, and some I have never heard of. When it was time for the kids to return home, they told their grandparents it was the best time they ever had and could not wait to return. Who knew grandparents could be so much fun?

When the chips are down, you see who really shows up for you. Several people told me they've come to appreciate the family members and friends who've been there for them during this tough time, and that long after the coronavirus dies down, it's this group that they want to re-up their investment in.. Others emphasized that the bizarre, unprecedented nature of this global pandemic has allowed them to reach out to people they haven't spoken to in ages. Suddenly they've found themselves on Zoom with estranged family members or old college roommates halfway around the world.

One item that came to the forefront for me is medical facility visitation. As many of you know, I took a fall in my home on April 1st and suffered some very serious injuries and after two hospitals, one surgery, I was placed in a nursing home/rehab facility. I was just released on 5-25. It was a very depressing experience not being able to have any visitors, not even my husband. My friends from Marina Cove and Highlands Ridge got me through this very difficult time with their cards, letters, ongoing phone calls and lovely gifts continuously offering me badly needed support. I could not have recovered as well without their heartfelt outpouring of kindness. I will always remember their kindness and going forward will try to be one of those encouraging persons when I learn of someone going through a tough time themselves or someone from their family. I encourage all of you to do the same. What one simple card of encouragement can mean to someone confined is amazing, especially if it's from someone you have never even had the opportunity to meet.

Thanks to all of you!!!

THE RIDGE REPORT



The Ridge Report

By: Birdy Whitehouse, Property Manager ~ <u>birdy@highlandsridge.com</u>



Hello everyone and welcome all new residents!!

A friendly reminder that the office will be closed Monday September 7, 2020 in observance of Labor Day.

Most of you have read the letter that was sent out in the email blast dated August 21, 2020. If not, here are a few items that were addressed. Founder's Hall is closed through the end of year. No groups will be permitted to access the hall for any type of function. Please make other plans for your functions. There is a fax, scanner, copier in the Computer/Library room. You are able to send and/or receive a fax. The fax number is 863-386-4011. Appointments are a must for notary services. Please call 863-471-1115.

Thank you for all the photo submissions. I received tons of awesome pictures. So, if your photo did not make it to this month's issue, don't worry, your photo could be on a future Gazette page. Keep sending the pictures. The pictures consisted of sunsets to wildlife and just beautiful scenery from Paradise.

Distribution Center: The center has the most common forms used at Highlands Ridge. You don't have to wait for the office to open because the center is open 24/7. The boxes are labeled and are clear so you can see the form. If you don't see a form that you would like to see there, please email me with your suggestion.

Marina Cove Residents: Great news!! The ownership of Mink Marina Cove will not pass an increase in lot rent for the year 2021. Your monthly lot rent will be the same amount for the entire year of 2021. The trash invoice of \$173.00 will be due October 31, 2020 and the Real Estate tax prorated share of \$127.27 will be due January 1, 2021. I will be able to draft these amounts out of your bank account just like your lot rent. There is a form at the distribution center labeled One-Time Authorization Agreement. Please complete this form and return to the office by October 15, 2020. Trash invoice will be drafted on October 31, 2020 and the real estate taxes invoice will be drafted on January 1, 2021. These invoices will be mailed out on or around September 21, 2020. This form is also located on the website, under resident info and then under electronic debit service. If you are away, please email me or frontdesk@highlandsridge.com for the form and we will email it to you. Any questions, please call me at 863-471-1115.

The seal coating of the roads project in Marina Cove will start Tuesday September 8, 2020. I will be emailing a map of which roads will be done on what days. I will have extra copies of this map at the distribution center. Any concerns please email me at birdy@highlandsridge.com.

Please submit all gazette articles to gazette@highlandsridge.com by the 15th of the month prior to its publication. Gazettes are monthly from September to April . May-June & July-August are combined.



Let's Keep Highlands Ridge Beautiful!

Good things happen in your life when you surround yourself with positive people.

- ROY BENNETT

GOLF NEWS

THE GAZETTE

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LGA NEWS

By: Cindy Becker, Vice-President <u>HRLGA18@gmail.com</u>



Summer is coming to a close and usually that means it's time for our Snow Bird friends to begin flying south for the winter. With COVID still influencing all that we do, we hope that we will still be seeing one another back in Highlands Ridge soon, even if it's from 6 feet or more away.

We have another hole-in-one to report! Linda Hathorn got her ace on June 27th on hole #8 at the North Course. I was lucky enough to see this one roll in the hole. Although this was a non-LGA day, it was still fun to watch and enjoy! Congratulations, Linda!

The LGA is in need of some new standing committee chairpersons for some of our events. We've had some ladies who've faithfully served us for many years on these committees and we want to thank them for their good work. These ladies would be willing to advise anyone who takes over for them, so if you can help, please let our president Pam Wick know. If chairing an event alone seems daunting, please consider asking an LGA friend to work with you.

We could use help with the following events: Choose Up, Christmas Tournament and the Welcome Back Tournament. We'd like to thank Cheryl Racicot, Willie Faye Myers, Joan White and Pat Olesek who've organized these events in the past.

We also need a new Welcome Chairman which involves welcoming new members to the LGA and a new Historian which involves updating our scrap books after each event. Thank you to Pat Olesek and Joan White for doing these jobs in the past.

If you've not been involved before, or if it's been awhile since you were part of an LGA event or committee, we hope you'll consider helping with one of these.

The LGA will begin playing at the South Course once again on Monday, September 14th. This will give you the opportunity to see the new bridge on #4, provided by Paradise Pride. Thank you to all the Paradise Pride committee members who make these projects possible!

In the spirit of hope and optimism, here is the schedule for the beginning of next year's events: November 7^{th} – Rescheduled Member/Guest – South Course – 9:00 a.m. shotgun start. Lunch to follow at Three Gens.

November 16^{th} – Welcome Back Scramble – South Course – 8:00 a.m. shotgun start. Lunch to follow at Three Gens. We need a chairperson(s) for this event. Please think about helping out the LGA. November 19^{th} and 20^{th} – Divorce Open – Both Courses – 12:30 shotgun start.

Safe travels to everyone, as well as good health to you and your families!

SAVE THE DATE! 2020 Divorce Open Nov. 19th & 20th, 2020



GOLF NEWS



MGA News By: Phil Hunter, *Secretary*



REMINDERS:

1) We are no longer using the old MGA blended tees for our events, instead we'll be using the W/G blended, Gold and G/R blended tees on the new score cards.

2) When you sign up for events, you need to list the tees you play from and if you are not in the GHIN system, you need to include your index. YOU NEED TO NOTIFY THE BOARD IF YOU WANT TO CHANGE TEES DURING THE SEASON AND YOU'LL NEED 10 SCORES FROM THOSE TEES TO DEVELOP A NEW HDCP.

3) Dues are expected to stay the same (\$20) as last season. ONLY CHECKS ARE ACCEPTED FOR DUES AND CAN BE PAID TO SAM CLINE OR LEAVE YOUR CHECK AT THE NORTH COURSE.

4) If you've had a hole-in-one this summer, be sure to notify Phil Hunter and Sam Cline. If you're playing with another MGA member and get a HIO, you qualify for the \$50 payout.

5) The new score cards are now being used and include the new handicaps for each hole now that the courses have been rerated and tees have been repositioned.

6) Sign up for most MGA events at the S. Course. If there's a fee required in advance, you need to sign up and pay at the North Course.

7) Play with a Pro season long points from last season will be carried over to the upcoming season, since the final PWP never took place last spring.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

The WELCOME BACK SCRAMBLE is a morning shotgun on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at the North Course. Your dues need to be paid any time before you play in the scramble.

The MGA CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP is a new event this year and will be a two day event:

January 5th and 7th. It will be flighted by handicap.

Be sure to check out the newly refurbished bridges at both courses.

Here's hoping that all residents return safely to Highlands Ridge.



LGA 9-Hole News By: Mary Ann Beyer, *President*

Summer weather continues to be hot and humid here at Highlands Ridge. However, it has not stopped the 9 Hole Ladies from hitting the links. They continue to meet, greet and enjoy our two wonderful golf courses. Maintenance continues on the courses. Upon your return you will find a new bridge that has been replaced going to Hole #4 on the South Course, as well as a new and improved bridge going to Holes #8/#16 on the North Course.

The 9-Hole dues are \$17.00 and due in October or upon your return. We play on Mondays (South Course) and Wednesdays (North Course). If you are not a member of the golf course, you will be charged regular green fees and then 9 hole play consists of \$2.00 per game and winners are paid in white money to be used at the two pro shops and the Tavern. White money is good for one year.

Due to the current COVID situation, both the July and August luncheons have been cancelled. We look forward to September when we can again meet, greet and enjoy Paradise fellowship.

If you are looking to learn a new skill or just to meet new friends, please check out our website at: www.HighlandsRidge9holeLGA.com

We are eagerly awaiting the return of our Northern friends and families as they make their way back to Paradise.

Safe travels, stay healthy and see you soon.

Mary Ann Beyer, President Written by Cheryl Shine **Highlands Ridge Holdings**

A Mink Property

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Administration Phone: 863-471-1115 Fax: 863-471-3398

> The Tavern 863-453-7600

> 3 Gen's Grill 863-201-7135

Golf Courses North: 863-453-9991 South: 863-471-2299

Highlands County Sheriffs Dept. EMERGENCY 911 Non-emergency 863-402-7200

Highlands County Recycling 863-655-6400

Animal Control 863-402-6730

Duke Energy 800-228-8485 Outages 800-700-8744 Service

City of Sebring Utilities Department 863-471-5112 / 471-0166

> Century Link I-800-788-3600

Comcast Cable I-800-934-6489

Tax Collector 863-402-6685

Waste Connections Garbage Collection 863-655-0005

www.highlandsridge.com



