

LAKE TAPAWINGO NEWS

A publication of the Lake Tapawingo Country Club

Three incumbents file for City Council; candidates sought for Lake Board race

By John Braden

Only the three incumbent city aldermen filed by the Dec. 26 filing deadline for the April 2 Lake Tapawingo City Council election.

Meanwhile, the Country Club Board's nominating committee comes down to the wire seeking candidates for five Lake Board seats to be filled at the Feb. 15 Property Owners Meeting and election. Lake Board nominees are to be named at least 45 days before the election -- about Jan. 1.

Magel, Hodges, Seago file for council

The seats of three of the six City Council members are up for election on April 2. All are for two-year terms.

City Clerk Paul Blixrud said only the three incumbent aldermen filed, unopposed, for the seats:
-- In Ward 1 (A Block), Alderman Steve Magel, 14 Anchor;
-- In Ward 2 (B and C blocks), Alderman Lisa Hodges, 17 Beach, who was appointed to complete the term of Tom Rodenberg, who resigned last year to become mayor;
-- In Ward 3 (D and E blocks), Alderman Bob Seago, 12 Emerald Shore.

The remaining three council members, Traci Via in Ward 1, Gary George in Ward 2 and Morgan Combs in Ward 3, have terms that expire in April 2025 as does Mayor Rodenberg.

Five Lake Board seats in Feb. 15 vote

Five seats of the 15-member Lake Tapawingo Country Club Board will be up for election in February for three-year terms. Ideally, at least six board candidates are needed to run for the five vacancies to ensure voters have a choice -- and to give the minimum-required

See Six, Page 3.



By John Braden

SNOW? 'S'NO PROBLEM! -- Temperature 33, flakes and mist falling on Dec. 27. Who cares! The bass are biting in C Cove.

Lake budget OK'd; Miller pond plan eyed

By John Braden

Lake Tapawingo property owners voted Dec. 14 to approve a Country Club budget conservatively estimating \$667,500 in total revenues and \$503,500 in total operating expenses for a net operating income (a final balance) of \$164,000.

However, Treasurer Scott Johnson explained the Lake Board is expected eventually to spend some of \$709,000 from a designated fund to rehabilitate the dilapidated Miller's pond dam and the segment of Anchor Drive it supports above AB Cove. Johnson said the pond dam project costs likely would be split between the 2024 and 2025 budgets.

After discussion, about 30 property owners attending the Property Owners Budget meeting voted by a show of hands to approve the budget. Questions about the Miller's pond dam project occupied much of the meeting.

The board voted in late 2023 to pay engineer Affinis Corp. \$87,000 to prepare detailed designs sufficient to seek bids in 2024 to overhaul the dam. Affinis, which developed a concept design for the

project in 2020, now estimates current costs for the project would be \$709,000, boosted by inflation from a \$362,000 estimate only three years before.

President Dean said Affinis provided the board a "task list" of permissions the board needs to negotiate from the Miller family heirs who own the pond and surrounding farm property. She said that negotiation would require much of the board's energy and, based on agreements, would determine how the project would be designed.

Board Member Mike Stiles said the amount of access allowed by the Millers would determine the eventual construction techniques. The dam itself is on Country Club property, with the property line actually within the pond. As part of the project, Affinis had proposed a skimmer and outlet box that could fit between the face of the dam and the Miller property line to capture debris and vegetation that normally would go into the lake.

Brad Cloverdyke, 3 Beach, who has served as liaison to the Miller family

See Litigation, Page 3.



Around the Lake

SYMPATHY

Sympathy to:

Stephanie Ellsworth and family, 45 Dockside, on the death in December of her mother, Debbie Willoughby of the home.

Karey Feightner and family, 10 Anchor, on the death Nov. 18 of her father, Norris Mitchell Kytile, 79, Kingsville, Mo.

BIRTHDAYS

- Jan. 3 Carol Keeton, 122 Dockside
 Jan. 6 Linda Osborne, 12 Beach
 Jan. 13 Shanna Corazzo, 48 Beach
 Stacie Evans, 137 Beach
 Jan. 19 Marsha McNabb, 50 Clipper
 Jan. 24 Julie Vigiatiuro, 29 Anchor
 Jan. 25 Linda Bolas, 52 Emerald Shore
 Kay Hawkins, 18 Anchor
 RoseMary Tede, 37 Emerald Shore
 Jan. 26 Connie Lehmkuhl, 61 Anchor
 Jan. 27 Kathy Summers, 5 Anchor
 Jan. 30 Jerry Davis, 7 Clipper
 Jan. 31 Charles McAlpin, 60 Anchor

WELCOME TO THE LAKE

Victoria Spencer, 103 Anchor

If you know of anyone who needs a Get Well card, Sympathy, Birthday greetings, Congratulations or Welcome to New Resident, call or text Lisa Davis of the Women's Club at (530) 386-1629.

January Lake Board, Council meeting changes

Because the New Year's holiday is Monday, Jan. 1, the first January Lake Board meeting is to be moved to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, at the Clubhouse. The second January meeting also is to be moved to Tuesday, Jan. 16, due to the Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday holiday on Monday, Jan. 15.

The January City Council meeting also is being moved to the second Thursday, at 6 p.m. Jan. 11, rather than its usual first Thursday date.

Thank you for your holiday generosity

We, the Employees of the City of Lake Tapawingo and Lake Tapawingo Country Club, would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the generosity and thoughtfulness of the Women's Club and you, the Lake Tapawingo Community.

It is our pleasure to be of service here and your contributions to our holiday cards were more appreciated than ever!



Invasive species training set Jan. 20

The next invasive species training session is set for 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 20 at the Lake Office. Training is normally scheduled on the third Saturday of every month.

Preregister for training by contacting the Lake Office at office@laketapawingomo.com or (816) 228-3721 to make arrangements.

Training is required before residents may obtain boat registration stickers or dock permits, or use the lake "for any activity." Rules require a member of each household to be retrained every two years.



Subscription & Advertising Information

The *Lake Tapawingo News* is a monthly publication of the Lake Tapawingo Country Club. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Lake Tapawingo Country Club.

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1/6 page	\$ 8.00
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News: Send news items to the editor at the e-mail address below or deliver to the Lake Office.

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laketapawingo@gmail.com

Contributing columnists: Tomi Bellinghausen, Jayme Dean, John Nicol, Tom Rodenberg, Tammy Taylor.

Copies of the *Lake Tapawingo News* are available at the Lake Office for \$1 each.

Lake Tapawingo Country Club website: www.laketapawingomo.com

City of Lake Tapawingo website: www.laketapawingomo.org

Community Facebook pages: Search on Facebook for: "Residents of Lake Tapawingo" or "Lake Tapawingo Police Department"



COUNTRY CLUB BOARD REPORT

Dam work complete; Lake Board pays reduced tax bills

The Lake Tapawingo Country Club Board of Directors met Dec. 4 and 18 at the Clubhouse. President Jayme Dean presided.

Visitors: Sharon Arbaugh, 74 Anchor; Sarah Buchanan, 16 Anchor; Jim Conway, 91 Dockside; Ty Francis, 3 Emerald Shore; Andy Gibler, 32 Dockside; Hap Graff, 30 Dockside; Charles Plank, 38 Dockside; Jane Quinn, 19 Anchor; Jeff Spalding, 58 Anchor; Brian Zoller, 87 Dockside; John Braden, 45 Anchor.

Dam and Spillway: Board Member Mike Stiles said dam remediation contractor Legacy Underground Construction had been delayed briefly by rain but had nearly completed work and was expected to be finished, including hydroseeding grass, before the Dec. 17 completion date. He said Legacy had submitted a bill of \$176,366, including a change order of \$19,800 for replacement of thicker-than-expected concrete panels in the spillway floor. He said final payment would not be released until work was completed and a final walk-through.

At the subsequent meeting, the board voted, 8-0 with 1 abstention, to pay bills including \$176,366 to Legacy Underground

Construction for dam remediation work and \$11,279.03 to OWN Inc. for engineering supervision of the dam project.

John Braden asked whether a silt fence should be placed to prevent erosion from the disturbed earth into the creek below the dam. Board Member Clayton Holland said he would confer with the contractor. In response to a question from Board Member Scott Johnson, Holland said demolition debris was disposed of in the dry former hatchery pond below the dam. Johnson asked whether the contract included paying for removal of the debris and whether the bill should be reduced accordingly.

President Dean said there remained an invoice for a final payment to Legacy Underground for dam work. Board Member Darren Davis said he had walked the project, which appeared ready for approval. Johnson said payment should wait until final reports are received.

With completion of dam work, Board Member Susan Stiles moved that the no-wake order be lifted from lake boaters. The motion passed, 9-0.

Jackson County property assessment appeals: President Dean said, as a result of favorable real estate appraisal appeals before

the Jackson County Board of Equalization, reduced tax bills were received for 33 Country Club real estate parcels. The board voted, 8-0 with 1 abstention, to pay bills including \$21,967.37 in real estate taxes. Of the real estate taxes, \$7,150.59 was paid under protest for a 34th parcel in continuing appeal of the Jackson County assessment of the former Station lot at the U.S. 40 gate.

Board election: President Dean said the Lake Board election nominating committee was one member short and noted it is a difficult time of year for recruiting, with 10 Budget Committee members recently recruited and five nominating committee members needed, **See Candidates, Page 5.**

**No Lake privileges
December 2023**
The Lake Board lists the following property owners or tenants who do not have Lake privileges as of Dec. 26. Lake privileges include use of the lake for any purpose as well as all common space such as Liberty Gardens, boat lots, soccer fields, tennis courts, the Clubhouse and shelterhouses.
96-B Tadlock 170-B Applequist

Six Lake Board candidates needed to make it a race

Continued from Page 1.

50-voter quorum a reason for showing up to vote at the Feb. 15 Property Owners Meeting and election.

President Jayme Dean said several people indicated an interest in running but none had signed candidate paperwork by Dec. 27.

Once the nominating committee names candidates in early January, then ballots can be prepared and residents notified by letter before the election, set for 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Candidates also may be nominated from the floor of the Property Owners Meeting.

Property owners who want to express their interest in serving on the Lake Board may contact the Lake Office, (816) 228-3721, to find a Nominating Committee member.

Normally only five seats, representing a third of the board, are up for election each year. The five regular seats up for three-year terms include those held by Jayme Dean, Bill Ellwood, Allison Holmes, Mike Stiles and Darren Davis, who was appointed to complete the term of Cyndi Peterson who resigned.

To be eligible for the Lake Board, a candidate must own a Lake lot, must be a year-round resident, must have resided within Lake Tapawingo for not less than two years prior to the election, and must have no outstanding dues, assessments or fees owed to the Lake Tapawingo Country Club.

Litigation not seen as answer to Miller pond dam problem

Continued from Page 1.

on the matter in the past, said there has been misinformation spread at the Lake about the Country Club's ability to successfully sue the Millers or that the state or federal government could compel the Millers to improve the pond. He said past boards might have impeded drainage from the pond by sleeving old drainage pipes, thus reducing their diameters. He said the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, which has jurisdiction over the pond, has no enforcement power. He said if DNR cited the Millers, the only remedy would be to sue them.

Dean said litigation is risky and expensive and that the Country Club's money would better spent carrying out a solution based on the access the Millers allow.

Tom Goddard, 5 Beach, asked whether the proposed solution would eliminate trash and vegetation coming into the lake. Stiles said the proposed skimmer would capture foreign materials but would have to be cleaned out regularly. Stiles said one option might be having to build a new parallel road and supporting structure on the lake side of the old dam. Choice among such options depends on the access granted to the site and recommendations of the eventual detailed designs from Affinis.



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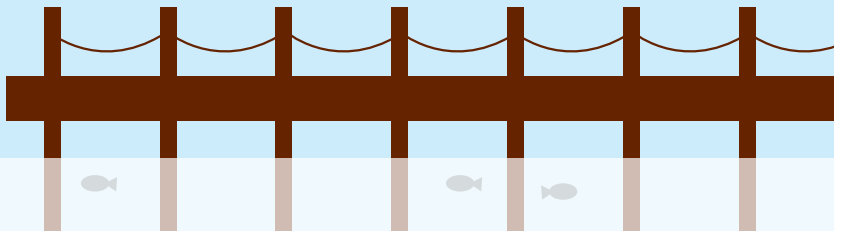
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Candidates sought; office administrator applicants interviewed

Continued from Page 3.

plus at least five candidates needed to run for the board election Feb. 15. She said it appeared five property owners currently were willing to run for the board.

Meeting dates: President Dean said because the New Year's holiday is Monday, Jan. 1, the first January board meeting would be moved to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, at the Clubhouse. The second January meeting also is to be moved to Tuesday, Jan. 16, due to the Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday holiday on Monday, Jan. 15.

Dean noted the board had previously moved its second December meeting to Tuesday, Dec. 19, due to a Kansas City Chiefs game being scheduled on the regular meeting night, Monday, Dec. 18, making it unlikely there would be a quorum. However, she said the National Football League moved the game to Sunday, Dec. 17, prompting her to move the board meeting back to Monday, Dec. 18.

Lake Office: President Dean said 64 applications had been received from candidates who are being interviewed to succeed Office Administrator Diana Reyes, who is to retire in 2024.

Docks and Waterfront: Board Member Susan Stiles said there are a number of large inflatables and other water toys still in the lake that the board probably does

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2023 Lake Board made progress on assessments, dam repair, tax bills

By President Jayme Dean

Lake Tapawingo Country Club accomplished several tasks in the 2023 calendar year. The campaign to collect past-due assessments has finally paid off! Currently there is an outstanding balance of late assessments totaling \$1,055. That's the lowest it has been that I know of.

A needed and costly dam repair was completed earlier this month. The dam and spillway renovation required by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources came in at a cost of \$269,500. The price tag for taking care of our roads over the past 12 months was \$38,633. You may have noticed the crack-sealing done in November to maintain and extend the life expectancy of the existing asphalt pavement.

Country Club property taxes for 33 residential parcels were reduced to \$14,816 from the initial 2024 estimated amount of \$24,864. The final meeting with the Board of Equalization regarding a 34th parcel

that is zoned as commercial property at the U.S. 40 entrance (the former Station lot) has yet to take place and that \$7,151 property tax bill was paid under protest.

An increase in property owners' annual assessments has been discussed and encouraged often as noted in meeting minutes over the past 12 years. It was a huge accomplishment to complete the daunting and often unpopular task of asking ourselves and the community to increase the assessments. In the end, we all agreed it was time to move forward with an increase to meet inflation and set aside funds for future big-ticket projects.

A big thank you to those who take time out to volunteer their time to serve the community and to those who are present at the Board meetings to ask questions and get information about the various projects and situations that involve the Country Club.

Have a wonderful New Year.



not want left out in winter. Board Member Wes Knox said there are probably 10 inflatables and four or five floating mats. Ms. Stiles said some probably would be in the bottom of the lake by spring.

President Dean suggested putting a

note on the Residents of Lake Tapawingo Facebook page about removing them as well as contacting the owners directly to remove them. Board Member Bill Ellwood suggested using the *Lake Tapawingo News* for that notification as well.

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CITY COUNCIL REPORT

City OKs audit; fire code advances

The Board of Aldermen of the city of Lake Tapawingo met Dec. 7 at City Hall. Mayor Tom Rodenberg presided.

Visitors: Brad Barlow, 134 Beach; Brian Bronson, 40 Dockside; Erin Morgan, 164 Beach; John Nicol, 59 Dockside; Charles Plank, 38 Dockside; John Sellars, 11 Dockside; John Braden, 45 Anchor; Brandon Carlson, Troutt, Beeman & Co.; Chip Portz and Derrick Llewellyn, Central Jackson County Fire Protection District.

City audit report: Brandon Carlson, audit manager for Troutt, Beeman & Co., presented his firm’s audit report of city accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. He said the report included a “clean opinion,” the highest ranking that can be given.

Former Mayor John Sellars said Mayor Rodenberg asked him to monitor the city financial situation. He said it is important to have a clean audit, adding audits are filed with the Missouri State Auditors office plus the bank that holds the water system general obligation bond note.

Sellars said the city’s accounting software upgrade from three years ago was a significant improvement. He said the city has earned about \$29,000 in Treasury bill interest since January 2023. He noted the city will need to look at the budget as related to revenue from declining franchise fees and court fees.

After discussion, the council passed, 4-0, a motion by Alderman Steve Magel to accept the audit as presented.

Fire code: Alderman Steve Magel introduced Chief Chip Portz and Capt. Derrick Llewellyn of the Community Risk Reduction Division of Central Jackson County Fire Protection District. Portz and Llewellyn urged the city to adopt the 2018 International Fire Code as other communities in the area have done.

Portz noted the City Council had adopted the 2018 International Building Code, which makes 143 references

See City, Page 9.

Two-month delay requested for boatlift variance trial

By John Braden

Lawyers for both sides have requested a two-month delay in the Jan. 16 bench trial of a lawsuit against the Lake Tapawingo Country Club by the owners of 78 Anchor who seek revival of a variance that would allow a boatlift at their dock.

Christopher Sherman, lawyer for plaintiffs Barry Kaseff and Lynne Melcher of Mission Hills, Kan., filed a motion for continuance on Dec. 15, with a stipulation and agreement to the delay by the Lake Board’s lawyers, Jason Rew and Zachary Goff. The bench trial, without a jury, was scheduled for 9 a.m. Jan. 16 before Jackson County Circuit Judge Kenneth R. Garrett III in Division 2 at the Eastern Jackson County Courthouse in Independence.

“The parties have submitted written discovery, but due to unanticipated difficulties with completing the document production process, the parties will need additional time to prepare the case for trial, and believe that the Jan. 16, 2024, trial date is no longer workable,” Sherman wrote.

The motion requested a continuance of 60 days to a date acceptable to the court and the parties. That would put the trial sometime in March.

The Lake Board lawyers certified on Dec. 4 that their first interrogatories (preliminary questions) to the Kaseffs, as well as a request for production of documents, were delivered to the Kaseffs’ lawyer. Similarly, the Kaseffs’ lawyer certified Nov. 15 that he had sent plaintiffs’ first set of interrogatories and request for production of documents to the Lake Board lawyers. Responses to those requests will form a basis of evidence in the trial.

Garrett issued an order June 8, denying a motion by the Country Club to grant a summary judgment that would have dismissed the case as a matter of law. The Country Club had contended facts in the case were not in dispute, a position rejected by the judge.

The Kaseffs filed the original suit Aug. 24, 2022, asking the court to force the Lake Board to restore a previous rule variance that had allowed

a boatlift to be placed beside a too-wide nonconforming boathouse dock and too close to a neighboring dock. The Kaseffs claimed they possess a valid variance to install a side boatlift based on an inherited variance of nonconforming use from a previous owner and that variances run with the land, even after the original boatlift was removed and the property was sold.

The Lake Board asserted the Country Club owns the lake and its shorelines and the Kaseffs merely have a revocable license to use a dock or a boatlift on the lake. The board further asserted the board has authority to enact and enforce rules and regulations relating to the use of the lake, specifically with respect to docks and boatlifts and that it properly enacted a rule restricting the location and spacing of side boatlifts. Based on that, the board contended the Kaseffs’ application for a boatlift permit was in violation of the rules and so was properly denied.

The Kaseffs contend they are entitled to have a boatlift on the left side of their dock (as viewed from the shore) and that the previous owner and an unidentified Lake Board office representative had told them the previous owners’ side lift variance was still good even though the previous owners removed the lift and sold it before the Kaseffs bought the house.

The Lake Board had argued that Barry Kaseff’s claim that a “person in charge” at the Lake Office confirmed a previous variance still exists “cannot be true” because the Lake Office was closed the whole summer of 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions and telephone calls were forwarded to Board President Jayme Dean, who conducted Country Club business from her home. Kaseff said the communication was by telephone and he did not know whether the woman on the other end of the phone was in the office or speaking from a forwarded phone.

The couple had submitted an application to the Lake Board in September 2020 for a variance to install a boatlift next to the 29-foot-wide dock with less than 8 feet of room from the proposed lift to the next dock. The 2020

See Plaintiffs, Page 9.

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City eyes tax hike to add police

Continued from Page 7. to the 2018 fire code, which has not been adopted. Portz said CJCFPD does not have authority to write fire code citations but could do fire inspections and report violations to the jurisdictional authority, the Lake Tapawingo Police Department.

Magel said the code might have to be amended to meet Lake Tapawingo's needs and concerns. Portz said CJCFPD could assist with the amendments to avoid conflict with specific conditions in Lake Tapawingo. City Attorney Paul Campo suggested the city order a copy of the 2018 IFC code book to be on file with the city for 90 days while the city works on proposed amendments.

Police: Mayor Rodenberg tabled a presentation on a proposal to obtain license plate reader cameras due to absence of its sponsor, Alderman Gary George.

Property tax increase: Mayor Rodenberg, the council, and visitors discussed a proposed 2024 vote to increase the property tax levy rate by 30 cents per \$100 of assessed value to pay for additional police officers.

Alderman Bob Seago said he thought a tax levy increase would help increase police coverage at very little cost per household. Rodenberg suggested creating a task force to gather information on the subject.

City Attorney Paul Campo had noted the city's maximum allowable general obligation levy of \$1 per \$100 of assessed valuation has been reduced gradually to 63.8 cents due to adjustments for increased assessed valuation of Lake residences. Because of that reduction in the general levy, Campo said the city actually has the flexibility now to ask voters to increase that open-ended levy back up to \$1 -- an

increase of about 36 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Alderman Steve Magel suggested the council consider an increase in the general levy rate.

Chief Tammy Taylor said the revenue generated would allow the department another full-time officer, plus added funds for more part-time hours, which would bring the city close to full-time police coverage.

Campo said if the levy passed in 2024, the increased tax could be collected beginning in December that year. He said the levy increase could be put on the ballot in April, June or August. He said the proposal would have to be approved by Jan. 23 to make the April ballot.

Rodenberg said a task force could develop the proposed language.

Water and Sewer: Mayor Rodenberg said he was still addressing an issue with AT&T whose contractors were boring in January 2023 to install fiber optic cable near the Clubhouse without authorization when they ruptured a sewer line causing more than \$15,000 in damage to the city system.

Executive session: The council voted, 4-0, to approve a motion by Alderman Steve Magel to convene in closed executive session at 6:55 p.m. to discuss legal matters, pursuant to Missouri Sunshine Law Section 610.021.1 RSMo (legal). After discussion with City Attorney Paul Campo, the council voted, 4-0, to approve a motion by Magel to end the closed meeting and reconvene in open session at 7:08 p.m. The council then passed, 4-0, a motion by Magel to adjourn.

Official city minutes may be read at City Hall or on the city Internet site, www.laketapawingomo.org.

Plaintiffs allege Lake Board grants variances arbitrarily

Continued from Page 7. application failed when no board member made a motion to approve it. The Kaseffs contend that process in denying the application was contrary to Missouri law.

The Lake Board countered that Barry Kaseff had an opportunity to speak and "voiced his grievances" about denial of a boatlift variance at the Sept. 8, 2020, Lake Board meeting in which his variance application died for lack of a motion to approve. Kaseff alleged, contrary to Lake Board minutes, that he was complaining about the board's refusal that same night to let him install an invisible dog fence on Country Club lakefront property. Even so, he argued an expression of frustration does not amount to a discussion of the merits of his application.

The Kaseffs also argued the board grants variances but has published no rules about them, including factors they consider, procedures for appeal and if or when variances cease to exist, in violation of Missouri law and public policy. "Defendant's system for granting variances permits board members to grant variances arbitrarily and capriciously," that filing said.

Modern Lake Rules limit the width of docks to 12 feet for docks without boat slips and 14 feet for docks that include boat slips. Boathouses are no longer allowed on the lake; and the Kaseffs contend their obsolete boathouse is too small to house a lift for a modern boat. However, Lake Rules provide that docks that were built before those rules were passed -- such as the Kaseff dock -- are "grandfathered" and can remain in non-compliance as long as no more than 50 percent of the dock is replaced during repairs.

As far as placement of boatlifts, Lake Rules state a boatlift may not be installed at the side of a dock if that dock is more than 12 feet wide. Additionally, a lift must be at least 15 feet away from the neighboring dock.

Put your pool toys away, lakesters

The Lake Board calls on residents to store their large inflatables and other water toys rather than leave them to beautify the lake all winter. Board Member Wes Knox said there are probably 10 inflatables and four or five floating mats still on the lakefront, some in danger of blowing away before spring.





LAKE SIDE NEWSLETTER

HELLO JANUARY

From Lisa Hodges, *Realtor*



MARKET NEWS

Mortgage rates have been decreasing this past month, and they plummeted at the end of the month. According to Freddie Mac, current 30-year mortgage rates are 0.55% lower than they were at the end of November.

We also got new housing starts rising 15% in November. Existing Home sales rose about 1% in November which breaks a 5 month streak of lower sales. This report measures closings in November so likely those buyers started their search September-October when rates were screaming higher.

MONTHLY CHECKLIST

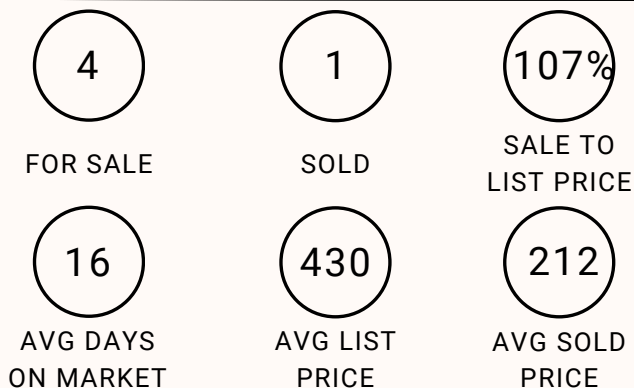
- Check for and repair air leaks to prevent ice dams
- Stock up on winter storm essentials like ice melt
- Pack a winter emergency kit for your car
- Check air pressure in your car tires (and golf carts!)
- Add downspout extensions to keep water from foundation



SAVE THE DATE

- GREG JACOBSON @ EAST 40 JAN 5
- KARAOKE NIGHT @ SINCLAIRS JAN 6
- PET VACCINATION CLINIC @ WESTLAKE JAN 10
- HAMMERTOE & THE FUN GUYS @ DIRTY HARRYS JAN 12
- CHATARUNGA WORKSHOP @ MANTRA JAN 13

MARKET UPDATE



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WOMENS CLUB NEWS

Thank you to all who donated to the employee holiday gift fund and an extra special thank you to those that volunteered to collect.



January

Bingo & Snacks 1/11, 7pm at clubhouse

Come have some fun and help us sort through all the great ideas for 2024 to see what we want to support in the new year.

Board Positions are open and we would love to have some new faces help us organize the year. Please come to the January meeting and let us know you are interested. One of the best ways to be involved in our community and make a ton of friends!

Clock running on Women's, Sportsmen's scholarship applications

There's not a lot of time left for young Lake scholars to obtain, fill out and submit scholarship applications to the Lake Tapawingo Women's Club and Sportsmen's Club.

Women's Club scholarship applications due Jan. 20

Lake Tapawingo Women's Club scholarship applications are available at the Lake Office and are posted on the Blue Springs High School website: Go to bshs.bssd.net and click on Academics and Counseling, then Local Scholarships.

Each year, two \$1,000 college/advanced education scholarships are presented to qualified Lake Tapawingo high school seniors by the Women's Club. Applicants must provide transcripts, cover letter, application form, and results of ACT or SAT scores. They will be contacted by the Scholarship Committee for a personal interview.

Applicants must be from property-owning Lake Tapawingo households (not rental) and have lived in Lake Tapawingo city limits for at least 12 consecutive months previous to and adjacent to the scholarship award date.

To be considered, applications must be mailed or hand-delivered to Linda Sangster, 28 Docksider, **no later** than 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024. If you have questions, please call or text Linda at (816) 916-2400.

Sportsmen's Club applications due Feb. 24

Meanwhile, the Sportsmen's Club is again offering academic scholarships to Lake resident graduating high school seniors and college students. Funding totaling \$3,000 is to be divided among eligible Lake applicants with a maximum award of \$1,000 per student.

For resident Blue Springs High School or private high school graduates with a 2.75 GPA and Lake resident college students with a 2.5 GPA, applications are available at the Lake

Office. The application must be completed, transcript included, and returned to Darren Lengyel, 161 Anchor, or to Mike Bellinghausen, 26 Anchor, by Feb. 24, 2024.

Applicants awarded a Women's Club scholarship may not also receive a Sportsmen's Club scholarship that graduating year.





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By John Nicol

THE LINEUP -- Will the real S. Claus please step forward. Santas Scott Rhodes, Andy Rogers and Jim Clarke deployed to the Lake gates to spread holiday cheer Dec. 16.

SPORTSMEN'S CLUB NEWS

Santa crew gives candy canes; Women's Club collects donations

By John Nicol

"Santa at the Gates" had a blended crew Dec. 16, with Women's Club members accepting donations for Lake employees and club membership renewals, while the Sportsmen's Club Santa(s) gave out candy canes and kindly invited photos to be taken.

Despite heavy mist and cold temperatures, Jim Clarke, Andy Rogers and Scott Rhodes were not deterred from representing Santa and nor were the Women's Club participants. Santa was also given elfin support by John Harrison and John Nicol. The Christmas spirit was evident with those who waved and stopped to give and receive Santa's greetings. Santa says "Thank you all, and have a Merry Christmas!"



Club reviews budget, calendar to plan 2024 activities

At the Sportsmen's Club's Dec. 12 regular meeting, Treasurer Chuck Welch presented the 2024 budget with comparisons to 2023 and 2022. First Vice President John Harrison reported 2024 membership had reached 100. Thank you for your support!

Details and times were finalized for "Santa at the Gates" on Dec. 16. Third Vice President Jeremy Cumberland's fishing report was that crappie were still biting and being fished. For new business, Chuck Welch made a motion to contribute money to the Lake employees Christmas fund; it was seconded and passed.

John Nicol distributed the proposed 2024 calendar of events. After review and discussion, some changes were



made: There will be alternating years between the Low Country Shrimp Boil and the Luau in August. The usual February Spaghetti Dinner will move to April leaving the February meeting as just a regular meeting.

With the Fourth of July falling on a Thursday, fireworks sales will begin Saturday, June 29, a day later than in the past. The revised reservation dates were communicated to the Lake Office.

Valentine's Day is coming!

Get your honey a

Singing Valentine!



Delivered across the Kansas City area, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Feb. 13 and 14, by men's (or choose ladies') quartets from the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus*.

Your Valentine will receive:

- ♥ two love songs
- ♥ a long stem rose
- ♥ Russell Stover chocolates
- ♥ a Valentine card from you!
- ♥ entry in a drawing for a diamond pendant from Helzberg's



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- ♥ a 2-hour window - \$55
- ♥ a 1-hour window - \$75



25% of net proceeds benefit Children's Mercy Hospital speech and hearing clinic.



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TAPAWINGO POLICE GAZETTE

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Out with the old, in with the new, Happy New Year!

By Officer Sarah Jones

I hope this finds everyone having a safe and wonderful holiday season. The Lake Tapawingo Police Department would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the residents of Lake Tapawingo for their generous donations to the city employees.



We appreciate all that you do for us and our families. The treats dropped off were also very delicious.

We would also like to say thank you to those who were able to donate to the Steppingstones Tree supporting young people in a transitional living program. There was a great turn out and nobody went without!

As another friendly reminder for winter, we want to remind anyone traveling to be extra cautious when weather is less than desirable. Please slow down and proceed carefully when approaching turns, hills, or narrow passageways. We know it only takes seconds for an accident to happen.

Our maintenance crew will tend to the roads through Lake Tapawingo to assure safe access throughout the winter months. As always, please keep an eye out for larger moving vehicles, such as school buses, and be patient as they need more time to move through the area when weather conditions are bad.

We would also like to keep everyone aware of the package thieves during this season. Please always make sure your cameras are in working order and, if possible, have a safe area for the package to be placed.

If you come across an incident that is not safe, or you need help, please do not hesitate to contact the police department to assist.

The Lake Tapawingo Police Department wishes all of our residents a Happy New Year and we look forward to another year with all of you.



See Police Reports, Page 17.

HOMEOWNER REQUIREMENTS

FOR YOUR LOW PRESSURE GRINDER SEWER SYSTEM

Please keep this letter in a handy place such as your telephone book or your Lake Rule Book.

By referring to this you will save yourself problems and might be able to avoid costly repairs and service.

The City of Lake Tapawingo Ordinance No. 710.100, governs the use and maintenance of your Sewer System. Please make note of the following requirements, and inform your guests, that the following may not be introduced into the sewer system:

1. NO Large amounts of grease, sand, ashes, mud, feathers, or grit.
2. NO pantyhose, elastic bands, disposable sanitary items or diapers, disposable/flushable wipes, baby/hand wipes, Q-Tips or prophylactics.
3. NO Toxic wastes, poisonous gases or solids.
4. NO garbage which has not been properly ground or shredded by an approved garbage grinder equipped with at least a ¾ hp motor. NO EGG SHELLS.
5. NO petroleum products, i.e.: paint thinner, kerosene or gasoline, fuel oil, flammable or explosive liquids.
6. NO paint.
7. NO acids, pickling wastes or concentrated plating solutions.
8. NO waters containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc or similar objectionable substances.

Basically, if it isn't TOILET PAPER or hasn't PASSED THROUGH YOUR MOUTH, it SHOULD NOT be flushed or go down any drain (sink, garage, basement, etc.).

Each homeowner should be aware of their Sewer Control Box location and familiarize him/herself with the Alarm Silence Button. It is a small rubber-covered button on the bottom or looks like the shape of a hand on the left-hand side of the box. To silence the alarm, push up on the button or press the image of the hand!

If the pump should malfunction, the RED Warning Light will go on and the alarm will sound. At such time 1) STOP all water functions, 2) SILENCE the alarm and wait 20 minutes for light to go off, if light does not go off then CALL: (816)

719-3101 immediately. Leave a short message as directed stating your address and your telephone number. The Water and Sewer Department will return your call and will attend to your problem. As the City MUST authorize ANY and ALL maintenance, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPAIR THE PUMP YOURSELF!

If you experience a power outage, the pump pit has a limited number of gallons holding capacity of waste. In this circumstance, your other appliances (washer, dishwasher, etc.) will not be working and only the basic living needs will be met. WARNING: Any excessive use of water during an outage could result in a sewer backup into your home!

We trust you to keep these facts in mind and close at hand. They are intended to make your grinder pump last longer and better serve you. If a household introduces any of the above mentioned forbidden items, or causes damage to the sewer system and/or grinder pump resulting in a call for service, that household will be charged for the repairs.

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF LAKE TAPAWINGO

Household sump pumps are prohibited from discharging into the sewer system, including into basement floor drains. Excessive water from sump pumps, or rainwater entering the grinder pump pit as runoff, can cause the pump to run excessively, damaging its components.

Please minimize water use during power outages. When the power is out, continued water usage, including toilet flushing, fills grinder pump tanks. When the power is restored, numerous pumps activate simultaneously, boosting pressure on the sewer system and sometimes causing sewer line breaks.



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JANUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 New Year's Day <i>City Hall closed</i> <i>Lake Office closed</i>	2 Country Club Board, 7 p.m. Clubhouse	3	4	5 <i>Lake Office closed</i>	6
7	8 <i>Lake Office hours: 11 a.m-6:45 p.m.</i>	9 Sportsmen's Club 7 p.m., Clubhouse	10	11 Municipal court 10:30 a.m., Circuit Court, Independence City Council 6 p.m., City Hall Women's Club Bingo, 7 p.m. Clubhouse	12 <i>Lake Office closed</i>	13
14	15  M.L. King Jr. Day <i>City Hall closed</i> <i>Lake Office closed</i>	16 Country Club Board, 7 p.m. Clubhouse	17	18	19 <i>Lake Office closed</i>	20 Invasive Species Training, 9 a.m. Lake Office (preregisgter)
21	22 <i>Lake Office hours: 11 a.m-6:45 p.m.</i>	23	24	25	26 <i>Lake Office closed</i>	27
28	29 <i>Lake Office hours: 11 a.m-6:45 p.m.</i>	30	31			

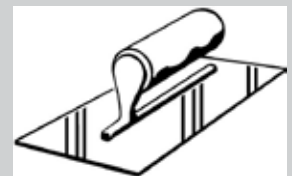
Police Reports

	Nov. 1-30	Oct. 1-31	Sept. 1-30	Aug. 1-31	July 1-31	June 1-30	May 1-31	April 1-30
Traffic - Anchor	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	0
offenses - Beach	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
- Clipper	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
- Dockside	3	1	0	0	2	1	2	0
- Emerald Shore	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
- Woods Chapel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
- U.S. 40	24	27	17	7	26	11	15	25
- Total	29	28	21	9	30	13	18	31
Warrant arrests	1	1	1	2	0	2	0	1
Arrests	1	1	1	2	1	2	0	1
Felony arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Codes complaints	0	0	0	7	0	2	1	2
Calls for service	20	23	31	26	46	45	8	7
Warnings	14	19	11	8	5	7	8	17
Total	65	72	65	54	82	71	35	59



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