

Gator Tales

News & Views of Blue Heron Pines Golf Community

29200 Jones Loop Rd, Punta Gorda, FL, 33950



Volume 29 Issue 10

Blueheronpineshoa.net

December 2020



The Presidents Message: Well, we've made it through another month here at BHP. The weather has gone from scorching summer days to what we loosely refer to as fall here in Florida. Now we can open those windows and get fresh air into our homes and spend more time outdoors. While there's not a lot of good that comes out of living during a pandemic, one thing that it should do is remind us of what truly matters and what doesn't. How silly all the petty gossip and arrogant anger seems when this could be our last day on earth. How much more meaningful things that we took for granted become when we can no longer experience them: the touch of a loved one, the joys of travel and meeting new people and experiencing new cultures, and the large gatherings of good friends and neighbors. For most of us,

these times will come again. Until they do, let's focus on how we can continue to help one another. On that note, once again, I want to thank all of the residents and management of Blue Heron Pines for your efforts in minimizing the damage that COVID-19 has caused in our park. Yes, we must continue to be vigilant and not let our guards down as the threat of the virus is still with us and growing. I know that wearing a mask can be inconvenient, but when I see our residents doing what they can to reduce the risk of illness to others, I am filled with a renewed faith. Thanks to all of you!

On a separate note, the FMO experts have given guidance on what to do about elections within the HOA when we are unable to meet. Their lawyers have verified that Chapter 723 (which governs us) permits us to declare an emergency and extend the offices for 1 year. Our HOA board has reluctantly decided to do this. Your current board will remain in office through February 2022. Some of the board members were considering stepping down at the end of their terms, but have decided to continue to serve our community as best we can. We all hope that this mess will be resolved and we will be back to our regular lives by then if not sooner. So let us all get out there and enjoy what we can to the best of our abilities while practicing recommended safety measures. Happy Holidays to all!

**Next HOA Meeting
Pending**



December Anniversaries

12/3 Richard & Ellen Tonnesen
12/7 Thomas & Trudy Goodreds
12/8 Dick & Nancy Aaron
12/8 Larry & Joy Roberts
12/11 Stu & Lucy Scheiner
12/13 John & Margie Matthews
12/14 Curtis & Nancy
Heitschmidt
12/14 Len & Lynne Melanson
12/17 Chuck & Marcy Dickey
12/18 Peter & Lynn Babbitt
12/18 Dan & Karen Hanks
12/18 Joe & Beverly Clark
12/19 Bob & Trish Wiggington
12/19 Mike & Ruth Dimeglio
12/21 Al & Mary Simon
12/21 Scott & Barbara Saunders
12/23 Carl & Barb Roberts
12/31 Carl & Janet Allen
12/31 Michael & Mary Woods
12/31 Darrel & Deanna Witty

December Birthdays

12/1 Lynne Melanson
12/1 Len Melanson
12/1 Gerri Downie
12/3 Joan Siebenthaler
12/3 Stephen Brooks
12/4 Claire Larson
12/5 Joan Wyman
12/7 Moe Beauregard
12/8 Al Simon
12/10 Clark Entzminger
12/11 Judy Cayer
12/11 Mike Wyman
12/13 Barbara Saunders
12/14 Beth Flintoff
12/14 Susan Haspel
12/16 Margie Matthews
12/17 Phyllis Summerfelt
12/17 Leonard Eggemeyer
12/19 Janet Clapper
12/19 Curtis Heitschmidt
12/20 Carla Konstantinos
12/21 Mary Simon
12/22 Judith Bayer
12/22 Kenneth Gellart
12/23 Carol Berard
12/23 Tom Fee
12/25 Sandra Lemieux
12/26 Margaret Geraci
12/27 Trudy Goodreds
12/27 Bob Longabard
12/27 Rod Moore
12/28 Beverly Clark
12/29 Maggie Whiteman
12/31 Donna Matejcek
12/31 Jan Crail
12/31 Jerry Eichstaedt
12/31 Richard Ingram
12/31 Walt King





Colin's obituary: This was written by his two boys



Colin Phelps passed away on Friday, November 6, 2020 due to complications from coronavirus. This awful virus brought an abbreviated end to a most extraordinary life.

His life reads like a storybook, and as he only ever read the newspaper, it would be a storybook he would never have read. Colin ran through the streets of London as a boy. Raised by his mother Ivy, Colin flattened pennies by laying them on the railroad tracks, carved his initials on the school building, and broke an arm chasing Pat Bod and Maureen Honeyball in the schoolyard. As a teenager, Colin followed his brother Roy to the United States, settling in Long Island, New York. Anxious to obtain US citizenship, Colin volunteered to serve in the US Navy during the Vietnam War and was assigned the role of corpsman, saving numerous young Marine lives on the front lines and receiving a Purple Heart. This is a chapter of his life that could have filled storybooks on its own. He chased one of his closest friends, a beautiful Navy nurse, all the way to Spain to convince her to marry him. Fortunately, Pat Bolger changed her mind and did, beginning a 40-plus year romance not unlike one of the paperback novels Ivy loved to read. Their adventures took them from Sayville, NY to State College, PA to Lancaster, PA to Canton, MI to Punta Gorda, FL. They created two sons and took family vacations to Niagara Falls and Walt Disney World and a dream vacation to Colin's original home of England. Pat and Colin found paradise in St. Martin and returned often for years, relaxing on the beach for hours on end. Pat read books. Colin played electronic solitaire. Colin supported his sons through college and was endlessly encouraging as they pursued careers in music. He showed up at gigs and tuned in for TV broadcasts, sometimes even past bedtime. He was Best Man for Paul's wedding and was truly the best man at Derek's. Generally, Colin was the best man. Colin's career was principally in the printing industry. But his brief time at a second job working nights and weekends at the Eden Movie Theatre in Lancaster was one of a million reasons his sons think he was the greatest. He retired from General Motors as Head of Global Purchasing, saving the company millions of dollars during his time in the role and was instrumental in the unique and influential production and design of the Saturn car's owner's manual. Colin loved music and passed that love along to his sons and grandsons. The theme song to his love story with Pat was 'Little Things Mean A Lot' Send me the warmth of a secret smile, To show me you haven't forgot, Now and forever, always and ever, Little things mean a lot

Sunday dinner was never missed, was two full plates, and Yorkshire pudding was a prerequisite. Colin also loved movies and TV shows, albeit while "resting his eyes".

After Pat's passing, like every great romance, a sequel was demanded. He chased another beautiful woman, Sue Thibault, and they filled their much-too-brief time together with drives across the United States, including Colin's long-hoped-for journey to the Grand Canyon. They travelled to France and Ireland and he introduced Sue to his paradise, St. Martin. Sue read books. Colin played electronic solitaire. He made solo trips to Ireland and England, providing his first of two grandsons with a walking tour of the streets he ran through as a boy. But he and Sue were otherwise inseparable and her family welcomed him completely. The theme song to his love story with Sue was 'Islands in the Stream' You do something to me that I can't explain, Hold me closer and I feel no pain, Every beat of my heart, We got something going on Each sentence above contains hundreds of stories and leaves out thousands more. These, like the super hero himself, have been lost to us. But great lives inspire, and there is perhaps no greater inspiration than Colin Edwin Phelps. We love you, dad.

Colin is survived by his queen, Sue Thibault, his eternally grateful and proud sons, Derek and Paul Phelps, his loving daughters in law, Geraldine Smythe and Jamie Phelps, his admiring brother, Roy Phelps, and an enviable collection of close friends and extended family. His spirit lives on in his grandsons, Guy Phelps and Oliver Phelps. May they fill their own books like Colin did his.

In lieu of flowers, please pour yourself your drink of choice and dance the night away in the arms, or memory, of someone you love.

Get Well:

Peter Babbitt lot 608
Ray Cronk lot 637

Sympathy:

Sue Thibault lot 629 on the passing of her sweetie Colin Phelps

Attention: The Blue Heron Pines annual auction for 2021 has been **cancelled**. The committee has decided that with Covid-19 restrictions and concerns, it would not be in the best interest of the BHP Community to hold it at this time. They came to the decision very reluctantly. Their chairman has asked that this notice be posted.

BHP DAZZLERS LUNCHEON

The next Dazzler luncheon will be at
Laishley Crab House
150 Laishley Court
Punta Gorda, FL
December 11th , 2020 At 1:00 PM

Please **Sign up By December 8th**
If you need a ride call Jean Michalak
941-676-0549 or e-mail her at
jeanmichalak8@gmail.com

ALL BLUE HERON LADIES ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.

Drivers please let me know if you have room in your car in case someone needs a ride. Also if you can't make it, please take your name off the list or call me.

Thank you!!!!
Jean Michalak



Winter Wonderland Parade and Tree Lighting

Our annual Winter Wonderland will be held on Friday, December 11, 2020, 5pm at the Community Center Parking lot. The event this year is sponsored by the HOA and Sun Communities.

It is that time of year to deck out your golf cart and join in our traditional holiday parade. This year we will go up and down each street in the community. Carts should start to line up at 4:45 pm at the mail kiosk. We are asking that all cars be removed from the parking lot by 3:30 pm to allow us to set up for the festivities.

Once the parade returns to the parking lot, we will proceed with our tree lighting, the voting for best decorated home and best cart. All to take place in the parking lot

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category.

Sun Communities has hired “The Loud Italian Pizza” truck to serve pizza from 6-8 pm. You must sign up in the community center by Sunday, December 8 if you would like a pizza that night. There will be no late additions, as we must provide the information to the pizza company in order for them to prepare for our event. Anyone who signs up will get a ticket which will entitle them to one pizza (cheese or pepperoni). Tickets can be picked up at the mail kiosk on Thursday, December 10, between 2-4pm. If you did not sign up, please don't expect to be able to get a ticket that day.

The HOA will provide soda, water and hot chocolate and cookies.

Just a reminder to follow the social distancing guidelines and wear a mask if you feel that social distancing is not possible.

All questions should be directed to Maureen Heger or Ann Marie Kulling.



House Decorating Contest:

The annual house decorating contest will take place on Friday, December 11, 2020 at the Community Center parking lot anytime between 5 and 7:30. Each person is entitled to one vote. So as the holidays approach and we start to decorate our homes, take a few minutes to ride around and search for your favorite home. Please take note of the lot number of your favorite, because that is what you need in order to vote. There will be 3 prizes, first, second and third place. Any questions see Maureen Heger or Ann Marie Kulling



Cart Decorating Contest:

Our annual Christmas Cart parade will be held the evening of December 11, 2020 as part of our Winter Wonderland. The carts will line up at the Community Center at 4:45. If you would like to participate in the parade, please sign up in the Community Center or contact Maureen Heger or Ann Marie Kulling, so we have an idea of how many carts to expect. All are welcome at the community if you would like to see the carts up close and personal. We have so many very creative people in our community, please come and support them. However, don't forget they will travel up and down each street in the community. Once the parade is completed, they will return to Community



Bean Bag Baseball 2021

It is getting close to starting the 2021 Bean Bag Baseball Season. We have only 7 teams reporting in. We have 50 players that have been signed up by their captains. There has been a signup roster in the Clubhouse since 16th of November. Please go to the clubhouse and sign up if you are interested in playing this year. We have room for many more teams. I will be checking daily. You can sign up as a group for a team or just put your name on the roster and be assigned to a team later.

There will be a meeting at 2PM on the 17th of December 2020 by the team captains and any others that may be interested to discuss the rules of play. we will also be discussing Covid-19 precautions, and any other issues that may arise. Please mark you calendars.



Attention: Volunteer Positions Now Available in Blue Heron Pines Park

1. Emergency Planning - Plans for Hurricanes and other Disasters - Carl Festa
2. Maintain the BHP Hurricane Emergency page (very little work) - C. Chisholm
3. Maintain the Community Directories/distribute to our website provider - C. Chisholm
4. Maintain the BHP website, publish content and update with help of website provider - C. Chisholm
5. Maintain the BHP website, registrations that creates the mailing list for BHP - C. Chisholm
6. Maintain the BHP Community Facebook page - C. Chisholm
7. FMO Representative - ?????
8. Neighbor Hood Watch - ?????
9. Gator Tales Distribution - Diane Baldwin

Please contact Walt King 856-430-4792 Rawsage@gmail.com

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During Covid-19 I have been
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Place Mats for sale... They
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and set up an appointment or
my home will be open to see
inventory on Mondays and
Thursdays from 9-12 until
Dec. 10th. Call Anita Mailloux
at 603-767-7858. 504
Fairway Dr. Face Masks
Please!!!



December 8 at 2:00 @ the clubhouse

My sisters keeper

Jodi Picoult

it is available on Amazon

HOA Membership Dues

A table will be set up in the mail Kiosk on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 to 4:00 for your convenience. Our HOA membership is \$20 for the year. We welcome all of our new residents to join the HOA and encourage all of our present members to renew.

RESIDENT ADS

HAIR by Ilse

Cuts – Color – Perms

Women and Men – For an Appointment Call me at 941-505-7761. Unit 169

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Need Help?

I am a handyman who lives in BHP & will do home & computer repairs, yard work, pet sitting, power washing, screening. Painting & just about any other work you may need done. Contact Scott at scuddy_99@yahoo.com or 941-875-5952.

Mary Kay Products

Melanie Bigos, Independent Beauty Consultant. Need anti-aging products or new colors to try. Call me at 610.780.5592.

THE AVON LADY

I would be glad to drop off a catalog for you. Please call 941-575-7712 or e-mail at

kath616myron@gmail.com.

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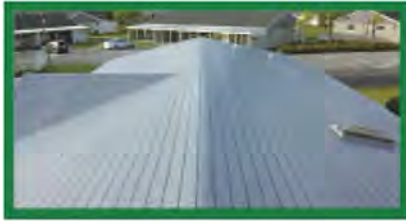
941-661-1405

Tom Lemke #212

Welcome to an Old/New feature of the “Gator Tales”. We will be running a “for sale” section **STRICTLY** for the residents of Blue Heron Pines. If you have something to sell, we probably have someone who wants to buy it. The guidelines are simple:

- - Short and sweet.
- - Ad will run for one issue unless you re-submit your ad for the next issue.
- - The service is free to residents only.
- - All articles have to be in no later than the 15th of each month.

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Registration for Men's Pool League - 2021

We would have liked to have had this meeting in late November, but covid-19 has not cooperated thus far.

Leo Zehnder has done a great job over the last many years in managing the league and I thank him for his years of dedication and service to the league. He will be a guest member of the league and we invite him to continue to shoot in the league.

Our ideal plan is to maintain 10 players on each of 4 teams and playing partners as we have had in the past. You will be shooting with the same partner for that night only. You will be scheduled with a different partner each week. The season starts Wednesday January 6th and concludes in late March. We will be shooting for 12 weeks in succession. Two teams will shoot Wednesday evenings and the remaining two teams will shoot Thursday evenings. A schedule will be prepared and will indicate the night's you are shooting. Please note the days you shoot may vary week to week. All games will begin at 7:00 sharp. Please be on time as it takes a while to get all games completed hopefully before 10:00 in the evening.

I encourage each player to show up the night you are playing. It is a strain on your team if you cannot shoot.

It is likely our Canadian members may not make it this year. We hope for the best.

The entry fee is one time charge of \$5.00, payable the first night you are scheduled to shoot. Ideally, we will have 3 Pizza nights, usually the 4th, 8th, and final awards night. The 13th week we will have a single elimination tournament beginning at 5:00 pm or earlier.

If you are interested in shooting in the league in 2021, please register by sending me an eMail with your name, Phone# (include your local number as well as your summer number), eMail address, and lastly, your Blue Heron Pines Lot Number. You may register as a PLAYER or a SUB. If you don't specify, I will assume you are enrolling as a Player, not a SUB. (There are no limits as a sub as subs are often needed.) Please submit this data as quickly as you can. The 1st 36 responses will be enrolled in the league and will be used to build the teams. Those received after the 1st 36 names will be included as subs. Your 4 officers, Tom Pearson, Larry Roberts, Hank Jensen, and I will be the last 4 positions. My eMail is tbreay@earthlink.net.

Thanks guys! Stay safe and look forward to seeing you. Tom Breay, (303) 503-8170

tbreay@earthlink.net

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To our valued customers;

During the current times we wanted to let you know that we are taking as many precautions as we can to ensure not only our workers safety but yours as well. We check workers' temperatures each morning and have limited the amount of contact our crews have with each other. Our crews work in Tyvek suits with respirators which helps to ensure your safety as well as theirs.

As a company, we want your business and there is no need for any contact if you so choose. Our business is deemed an "Essential Business" and we are here for you when you need us. You can schedule your inspection by calling 1-800-681-3772.

*Wishing you good health and safety,
The Florida Anchor & Barrier Team*



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WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP: Have you or a loved one served our country or done business in a "far away land"? If so, you know that events in other countries have a real impact on our lives and our families. Punta Gorda's Military Heritage Museum is forming a "Great Decisions" discussion group to learn about and discuss issues that will affect us no matter who wins the election. "Great Decisions" is a national program with citizen discussion groups around the country. 2021 topics include: Korean Peninsula Stability, Persian Gulf Security, Russia and the Arctic, COVID-19's Economic Impact, and more. Meetings will be weekly at the Military Heritage Museum starting in mid-January. To reserve your seat now and for program details please go to the Museum's website freedomisntfree.org, click on "new registrant" and follow the prompts. Join now to learn more and to let your voice be heard. Results of a survey taken at the end of the program is shared with the U.S. State Department as citizen feedback. If you have any questions please call Mark Surrusco, 267-614-7495.

BHP RECURRING ACTIVITIES

MONDAYS

8:00 am Walking DVD Exercise, just show up
8:30 am Tommy's Fun League (Golf)
10 am Water Aerobics/ Swimming Pool/Just show up
1-4 pm Mah Jongg/Game Room Jan Crail 941-575-2935
7 pm Bingo
7 pm Texas Hold Em'/Game Room

TUESDAYS

7:30am Ladies 9 Hole Golf/ C.Harroun 941-575-2138/Darlene Ditmore
941-833-3353
am Men's 18 Hole Golf (Off Site) Leo Zehnder 248-421-4774
8:30 am Ladies 18-Hole Golf/ Donna Cononico 941-639-3752/ Sally Sullivan
941-505-8710
12:45 pm Ladies 9-Hole Golf / Pat Lonergan 941-637-4820/ Janet Bolyard
260-417-6003
12:45 pm Revenge/Clubhse Main Area/Suz Krause 586-764-3674
1:00 Quilting/Craft Room/

WEDNESDAYS

7:15 am Golf /Ron Jessop 941-639-1378
8:00 am. Walking DVD Exercise Just show up
10 am Water Aerobics/Swimming Pool/Just show up
11 am Ceramics/Arts & Crafts Room/Just show up
5:45 pm Revenge/Clubhse/Suz Krause 586-764-3674
7 pm Men's Pool League/Games Room/ Tom Bray 303-503-8170 (Jan-Mar)
7 pm Pool Tournament/Game Room (April-Dec)

THURSDAYS

9:00 am Couples Golf /Rick Schram 941-505-0646
3:30 p.m. Zumba/Clubhouse Main Area/Just show up
6 pm Nickel/Nickel/Craft Room/ Just show up.
6:35 pm Euchre/Game Room/Rick Schram 941-505-0646
7:00pm Men's Pool League/Games Room/Tom Bray 303-503-8170 (Jan- Mar)

FRIDAYS

7:15 am Men's Golf /Ron Jessop 941-639-1378
8:00 am Walking DVD Exercise, just show up
10 am Water Aerobics/Swimming Pool/Just show up
9:30 am Bocce Ball/Behind Clubhouse/Just show up

SATURDAYS

9:30 am Horseshoes/Behind Clubhouse - Just show up R Moore 607-765-1091
9 am Coffee, donuts & bagels (Bul. Bd. sign-up list)
10 am Shuffleboard/Behind Clubhouse - Just show up
1:00 pm Bean Bag Baseball/Behind Clubhouse – Walt & Diane King
856-430-4792 (Jan - May)
6:30 pm Pinochle/Clubhouse Main/ Rm/M Brietzke 941-249-3962

EVERY OTHER SUNDAY

9-Hole Scramble Golf/Doug Howe 941-661-2238

SUNDAYS

6:15 pm Dominoes, Arts-Crf Rm/Just show up
7 pm open Pool /Game Room/ just show up

**TO RESERVE AN AREA FOR AN ACTIVITY IN ANY OF THE CLUBHOUSE ROOMS,
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MAUREEN.HEGER127@GMAIL.COM**

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Home Watch Program



HOA MEETINGS

The **HOA Board** meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month and the **HOA Membership Meetings** are on the 1st **Tuesday** of each month during the month of October through April beginning at 7:00 PM. The February Membership meeting is the Annual meeting at which Board Member elections are held. The meeting agenda is posted on the bulletin board 48 hours prior to the meeting. All HOA members are encouraged to attend the Board meetings. If you have an issue or concern, please contact a Board member prior to the meeting to have that item added to the agenda or sign in before the meeting. You will have 3 minutes to speak about that item during the meeting. (This is the "Sunshine Law" as defined under Florida Statute 723.078.) In addition, at the end of each meeting there will be an opportunity to ask questions or present items for discussion

HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

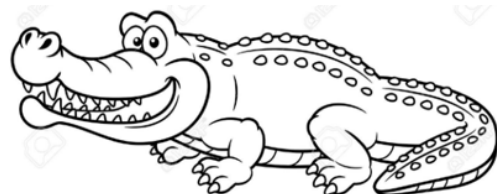
(HOA) Membership in the Home Owners Association is not mandatory, however, the Board represents the home owners of Blue Heron Pines as a group and provides a united voice for the home owners. They work as a liaison between BHP Owners/ Management and the residents. The cost is \$20 per year (Jan 1-Dec 31). This entitles the home owner to one vote per household for election of Board Members and any issues that need to be voted on. This money also pays for holiday events, kitchen supplies for Saturday Coffee and various activities, Legal fund, decorations for the Clubhouse, copying costs, reduced price on tickets for HOA events and more. Renters are also encouraged to join the HOA. Although they cannot vote, they are welcome to participate in all of the Blue Heron Pines activities and events as a member. You can purchase your Membership at monthly meetings or from Jae-Ann Carder #528

HEALTH & WELFARE Sunshine COMMITTEE:

Cathy Richardson #555 502-321-5229 lcrich3@att.net

has volunteered for this committee. She will gather information from other residents about who is ill or hospitalized, has a family member with a serious illness, or has passed away. If you have any news about a neighbor, please let Cathy know.

WILDLIFE: It is very important that you **DO NOT** feed any of the wildlife in and around our park. **From the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission website:** "In Florida, it is **ILLEGAL** to feed manatees, sandhill cranes, bears, **raccoons**, foxes, and **alligators**." We need to do our part by making sure we are not providing **any** food for **any** animals (including birds and **ducks**). If you have a fruit tree, make sure you pick up fallen fruit. Above all, if you see an alligator, **just leave it alone!** The same is true of the coyotes people have seen out and about at night. If you leave them alone, they will do the same.



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During the current times we wanted to let you know that we are taking as many precautions as we can to ensure not only our workers safety but yours as well. We check workers' temperatures each morning and have limited the amount of contact our crews have with each other. Our crews work in Tyvek suits with respirators which helps to ensure your safety as well as theirs.

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*Wishing you good health and safety,
The Florida Anchor & Barrier Team*



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TIE-DOWNS
TIGHT?**

**ARE YOU
SURE?**

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941.343.8022 800.681.3772



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The *Gator Tales* is published 10 times a year solely for the residents of the Blue Heron Pines community. The editorial staff makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information presented and reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any copy. Copy may be edited for clarity and space. *Gator Tales* can be seen on the BHP website.

www.blueheronpineshoa.net

PUBLISHING DEADLINE

Please have all submissions for the next month's newsletter to me **BEFORE** the 15th of the month.

OUR ADVERTISERS

If you need a service that can be provided by one of our advertisers, please call them. Most have been used by our residents and will do a good job for you

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Owners of FL (FMO)

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We have taken steps to limit exposure to the virus by making our customers aware that there is no need to have any contact with our employees if you choose to do so. Our business falls under the state's guidelines as "Essential Business".

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