



*Tower Lakes  
Times*

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*February 2024*

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**BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES**

Building rep meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21st, 6pm at the Farmhouse. We hope to see a representative in attendance from each building.

**SOCIAL NEWS**

The Social committee is working hard to offer an activity for the community every month. So far, they have the following planned:

March 23, 2024 – 8:30AM Breakfast at the Der Dutchman – Bellville Ohio. RSVP to Karen Conard by March 20<sup>th</sup> at 740-501-6879 – for new residents, we meet once a quarter for breakfast at the Der Dutchman, join us to meet your neighbors.

Neighborhood Watch meeting March 28, 2024 6-8PM regarding the Solar Eclipse and how it may affect Tower Lakes and the City of Mansfield because of the number of visitors.

Uniquely Us will have Spring Pop Up Shop on April 13, 2024 – Time to be announced. We'll have more in the next newsletter.

April 18, 2024 – Thursday - 6-8PM – Women & Wine at the Farmhouse. RSVP by 4/15 with Karen Conard. Cost will be \$2.00 per person plus either a bottle of wine or an appetizer. Let Karen know when you call her what you will bring.

May 18, 2024 – Saturday 9:30 -11AM – Meet & Greet at the Farmhouse. Join your neighbors for a continental breakfast of coffee, tea, orange juice, donuts & pastry. This will be a way to meet your neighbors and folks that have returned for the summer.

**WELCOME** new residents with a Tower Lakes Wave:

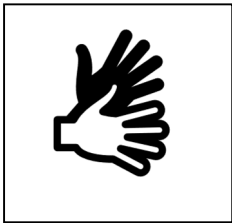
Kristine Bechtel  
1522 Cape Cod Dr

Peggy Robnolte  
1586 Cape Cod Dr

Barbara Cochran  
Norm Haywood  
1036 Barrington Pl

Raymond & Betty Cooper  
1616 Cape Cod Dr

Fred & Lona Shaffer  
1629 Cape Cod Dr



**Daylight savings time starts at 2am on March 10<sup>th</sup> – clocks spring forward!**

**Board Members:**

Gary Anania – President / Committee Back-Up  
Bill Leffel – Vice President / Farmhouse  
Melanie Riggelman - Treasurer / Trash Removal  
Pat Lapczenski – Secretary / Tower Lakes Times

Chris Baldasare – Beautification  
John Grove - Snow Removal  
Larry Madeker - Lawn Care / Landscaping  
Joe Petrycki - Website / Neighborhood Watch  
Tom Studer - Variances

## **THE FARMHOUSE HAS WIFI**

Yes – the internet is now up and running in the Farmhouse. This service is being provided for residents' use during meetings and activities. Connection information will be posted at the Farmhouse. (The password will be monitored and updated on a regular basis for security purposes). If you have questions regarding this or you'd like to reserve the farmhouse for a private event, please call Bill Leffel.

## **BRIGHTSPEED**

The internet group that has been laying fiber optics in the neighborhood will be back to fix the damages made to your property. No date was given for their return, but Gary Anania is following up with them.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

Tony Vero, county commissioner and Dan Crow, Mansfield Fire Chief, presented two topics at the neighborhood watch meeting last Thursday night. Some interesting information: Did you know? There are 125,000 residents in Richland County, that the county gets 56% of their operating budget from sales tax dollars, that the fire department went on 12,000 calls last year and 88% were for medical reasons, and that many of the fire calls were arson.

## **DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE TOWER LAKES WEBSITE: [www.towerlakeshoa.com](http://www.towerlakeshoa.com)**

Check out the website for the calendar and other important information. New things added this past month. John Grove is now giving updates on snow removal information. (But we hope we do not have to worry about that until next December). Added a news scroller on the home page to show upcoming meetings, welcoming new residents, added financial information and an updated directory.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT: BEWARE OF SCAMS**

A common story from a grandchild - they were arrested somewhere far away while on vacation or spring break – “Grandma, I’m in trouble and need your help. I got arrested in Mexico and need \$2,500 bail money to get out. Please don’t tell Mom and Dad!”

Or – “Grandpa, can you help me real fast? My friends and I went to \_\_\_\_\_ and one of them ended up giving me Covid. I’m fine and getting better, but I need some money to pay a few medical bills until I get back to the U.S. I know you can help me, but please don’t tell Mom and Dad; they will be really worried, and I don’t want to tell them ‘till I get back. Can you send me \$ 2,500 by Venmo, Zelle or Western Union?”

The scammers have become quite insidious. They check out public postings on seniors’ social media accounts, looking for pictures and names of family members at birthday parties and other family gatherings, and then reference those special times to build credibility and create an emotional hook.

“Grandma, I know you can help me. Remember when we had that birthday party last year? My brother Billy and my sister Susy were there, and you made us that delicious cake? And then we all played badminton in the backyard? I remember how nice you were, and I really hope you can send me that money....!” That’s pretty sneaky - and pretty effective.

Being educated about the latest tactics is the best way for our citizens to protect themselves. Forewarned is definitely forearmed. If you receive a text or call which appears to be from a family member in trouble, with a story about an urgent need for money, **STOP!** Get the details and then call other family members to verify the child is really traveling. **DO NOT** give out any personal information (like bank account numbers) or send any money until you have done your homework. Consider calling the BBB or police right away! If you have older family members, discuss this racket with them. Emphasize to them; these callers are very convincing. Before you take any action on a phone call, verify the story with family!