



# FLEET BEAT

VOL. 30 No. 4

THE FLEET LANDING RESIDENTS' NEWSPAPER

May/June/July 2020

No paper copies of this issue of *FLEET BEAT* were ordered because of continuing complications caused by COVID-19. The issue can be viewed under "Publications" on the CareMerge app and website, and until August 1, on the My Fleet Landing app, at [myfleetlanding.com](http://myfleetlanding.com), and on FlipSide.

## COVID-19 Challenge Continues

By Enith Vardaman; photo by Carolyn Evans



*This banner, which greets staff as they enter Fleet Landing, is one of the signs placed throughout the campus by the Residents' Council to express the gratitude of residents for the exceptional care received during the COVID-19 crisis.*

An article in the April issue of *FLEET BEAT* covered Fleet Landing's quick, effective, and caring response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which at that time was already an emergency of much longer duration than hurricane evacuations. Three months later, Fleet Landing continues to demonstrate that it is fully capable of handling an emergency, no matter the length.

An extensive effort to assure the well-being of residents and staff in our community continues. This article will try to highlight some of this work. The responsibility for screening of staff and the very restricted number of others allowed to enter the campus has fallen to Manager, Safety and Security, Eddie Howard, and his staff. With so much campus activity being conducted virtually, Information Technology Manager John Amiot's role has taken on new importance. Transportation Supervisor Brandon Levy and his staff continue to offer senior-hour grocery shuttle service as well as the traditional medical shuttle. Because residents are encouraged to limit off-

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## New Residents' Council

By Enith Vardaman



*LtoR: Larry Bell, Bob Burkart, Kerstin Chelius*



*Imogene Coleman, Jim Coté, Janice Flock*



*Nancy Russell, Jess Stewart, Eileen Theis*

As Residents' Council Vice President, Pat Kluever had responsibility for organizing this year's election. When the pandemic made it impossible to hold the election in the traditional manner, he and the other council members devised a new method. Kluever outlined the new procedures during the May 5 FNN (Fleet News Network) broadcast, popularly known as the "Josh and Travis Show" or the "J and T Show." In place of the traditional "Meet the Candidates" in-person forums, four of the

*(continued on page 18)*

## June Residents' Council Meeting

By Howard Burdick

New Residents' Council President Bob Burkart convened the June 19 meeting, which was conducted virtually over in-house channel 267. He welcomed the new council members. He explained the challenges in scheduling council meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic because of competing demands for time slots on channel 267, especially from the popular exercise classes. Council members have newly designed name tags. The previous version could be mistaken for a staff name tag.

**Management Review.** Executive Director Josh Ashby reported a new state mandate for COVID-19 testing of assisted living staff every two weeks. Fleet Landing continues to test Derfer Pavilion staff and residents weekly. He noted the recent increase in Florida's positivity rate and the significant decrease in the average age of people testing positive (age 30 in Duval County). A sizable percentage of Fleet Landing's workforce is young, and management is educating them about protecting themselves so that they do not inadvertently bring the virus here. Portions of the Village Project affecting the front of the Coleman Center are complete. Construction of the new porte cochère and the reopening of the parking lot are expected in ten to twelve weeks.

### Council Reports.

Vice President Eileen Theis reported that there would be a short Independence Day virtual ceremony, and solicited resident photos taken at younger ages for a rotating display before the ceremony. She also solicited additional photos of former service members in uniform for our Veterans Day ceremony. The annual gift fund for employees will kick off in earnest in September.

**Finance and Marketing.** New council member Kerstin Chelius reported a continuing positive financial status, with over \$44 million cash on hand. Details can be found in financial reports in the Dinda Library. Independent living and memory care units are 100 percent reserved or occupied, with assisted living and skilled nursing at 93 and 81 percent occupancy respectively. The Beacon Pointe apartment building has two available units out of 128, with 43 on the wait list, which is called the Horizon Club. Atlantic Club membership stands at 365 households. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, campus tours for prospective residents have been canceled. Marketing is done only from the wait list, and prospects from the list visit only the unit being offered to them. Marketing is using webinars to keep those on the wait list engaged.

**Wellness and Transportation.** Imogene Coleman reviewed the extensive features of CareMerge, our new community engagement portal available online and as a smartphone and tablet app. She noted that resident sign-

up has exceeded the initial goal. Advantages over the My Fleet Landing app and FlipSide [both scheduled to be eliminated on August 1] include enhanced communication and a reduction in the use of paper.

**Human Resources and Dining.** Eileen Theis, reporting for absent new member Jim Coté, announced the employees of the month: For April, there was a tie between Carla Walk of Nutritional Services and Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard, and for May, Alex Orcino of Housekeeping was the honoree. Lobster Tale submissions for employee exemplary performance totaled 111 in April and 85 in May. There are 421 staff members. The year-to-date turnover rate is 15.4 percent. Dining Services has been severely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. Staff have taken on new roles and responsibilities. All meals must now be delivered. With restaurants closed and grocery shopping affected, many residents have changed from the 20-meal plan to the 30-meal plan, thus increasing the number of meals to prepare and deliver. There has also been volatility in food availability and prices.

**Healthcare.** Janice Flock reviewed specific concerns associated with COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. These include social isolation and loneliness. Getting outside for fresh air is important. Be sure to wash masks. Other health tips: Taking walks has additional multiple benefits ranging from maintaining balance and strength to improving blood sugar levels and avoiding osteoporosis and cardiovascular disease. A barber or hairdresser can be asked to look for skin cancers on the scalp, and don't forget fiber—25-35 grams per day.

**Maintenance and Remodeling.** New member Jess  
(continued on next page)

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**All the news that fits...**

*Contributions to FLEET BEAT are welcome. Please place copy or any comments you may have in box 1107 at the Coleman Center. Neither letters to the editor nor anonymous submissions are published but we are, of course, mindful of your comments. Find the most recent 12 issues of FLEET BEAT at [www.fleetlanding.com](http://www.fleetlanding.com). Sign into the resident portal and click under "Publications." Issues can also be found under "Publications" at [myfleetlanding.com](http://myfleetlanding.com) and in the MyFleetLanding app.*

## June Residents' Council Meeting

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Stewart noted canceled zone inspections and quarterly meeting of resident representatives with maintenance managers because of COVID-19. He also reviewed the process for maintenance requests, including how to use CareMerge, to ensure they are recorded properly.

**Safety and Security and Housekeeping.** New member Larry Bell described how the team of one manager and 10 staff safeguards us 24 hours a day. Duties include monitoring some 40 TV cameras, conducting frequent patrols around the campus, and providing emergency assistance to residents. They now have the additional COVID-19 duty of screening staff and visitors as they enter our campus. Under the supervision of two managers, twenty-two full-time and three part-time staff provide housekeeping services to Fleet Landing's 653 residents. One housekeeper can usually clean six units a day, except at the 5800 Court, where the number is four to five per day. The best way to express appreciation is to submit a Lobster Tale.

**Resident Suggestions.** New member, Secretary Nancy Russell, reported the following comments or suggestions and management responses:

- Could Fleet Landing purchase a vehicle to transport eight to ten bikes to off-campus biking sites? It is not practical to transport bikes to off-campus sites.
- Building 3000 guest parking spots are often taken by vendors and other residents. Could these spaces be designated as parking for Building 3000 guests only? Management is working on a plan to free up several new spots. Failing that, specific signage will be added.
- What about playing cornhole (a beanbag toss) once pandemic restrictions are lifted? Residents may organize a club or have informal games or tournaments.
- Could Fleet Landing purchase a few three-wheel bikes? Management believes the current two-wheel bike offerings are appropriate and strike the right balance of safe design and space requirements.
- In-house channel 267 has an annoying hiss and the camera is mounted too high. Some improvements have already been made. Expect real improvement when we move back into Windward Commons.
- Establish "fit-trail" stations around the campus for outdoor exercising. Done!

Residents had the option of asking questions via email, but none were submitted. The next council meeting will be held virtually or in the Coleman Auditorium, if permitted, at 3 pm on July 21.

*Editor's note:* FLEET BEAT attempts to avoid repetition of information found elsewhere in this issue.

Council minutes and full reports can be found in the Dinda Library.

## The WELLInspired Learning Series

By Enith Vardaman



*Dorothy Slama and Joseph Tingson*

The WELLInspired Learning Series talks, which had been interrupted for several months by the pandemic circumstances, resumed on June 10. They were broadcast on in-house channel 267.

Nancy House Unit Manager Dorothy Slama spoke about the Comfort Matters program at The Nancy House. Some other Florida healthcare facilities are working toward accreditation in this nationwide dementia care program. However, Fleet Landing is proud to be the only facility in the state of Florida to have already achieved accreditation, and it is proud of what the program does for residents.

The statistics about dementia are disturbing. In 2020, 5.7 million people have dementia, while that number is estimated to rise to 14 million by 2050.

In her talk, Slama discussed what to expect from people experiencing mild, moderate, and advanced dementia as well as the reasons why comfort does matter to people with dementia and their family and friends. Symptoms range from impaired memory and personality changes in the mild stage to being bedridden and mute in the advanced stage. Slama showed a series of slides emphasizing the strengths of persons at each stage. Despite their cognitive decline, three strengths remained constant: They know when they are and are not comfortable, and they will do almost anything to be comfortable. They thrive when engaged with interests meaningful to them. Their emotions are intact, which means that how they feel is very important to them.

Slama cited the following evidence-based rationale for comfort: It is a benefit to people with dementia. These people are experts on their personal comfort, and they can communicate comfort and discomfort through their actions. Everyone with dementia can be comfortable. Unlike hospice, comfort is not just for end-of-life circumstances. Moreover, comfort does not require extra staff, nor does it violate regulations. In short, the comfort model of care is a win for all concerned—the people with dementia, their families, and organizations.

Slama described what comfort looks like for people  
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## The WELLInspired Learning Series

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with dementia. They are free from pain. As the ability to communicate with words diminishes, factors such as facial expressions can be taken into consideration. They sleep when tired and wake when refreshed, and they eat what they enjoy when they are hungry. They are engaged in things that make sense to them. They receive care on their own terms. They experience an environment that meets their needs at every level. There is recognition that comfort care means something different for every single person.

Slama stressed that one of the most important aspects of Comfort Matters was the desire to have people in The Nancy House feel that they are at home rather than in an institution.

Anyone wishing to learn more about Comfort Matters or The Nancy House can contact Slama at ext 1124 or [dslama@fleetlanding.com](mailto:dslama@fleetlanding.com).

A presentation by Joseph Tingson of the Therapy Department followed Slama's talk. He spoke about dementia, its stages, and how to care for loved ones.

Tingson described application of the Allen Cognitive Levels Scale to guide the level of care. Claudia Allen, MA; Occupational Therapist, Registered; Fellow, American Occupational Therapy Association, and her colleagues, developed the scale. It helps to evaluate the ability of a person to learn a new task and function independently. The goal is to promote safe engagement in activities that allow clients the exercise of their best abilities to function in a supportive environment. For each of the six levels in the scale, the traits and capabilities of a person classified at that level are delineated. A person at Level 1.0, for example, has severely impaired cognition and requires 24-hour care. Traits of a person classified at Level 3 include the ability to follow one-step simple directions in a familiar environment, but the person is easily distracted and cannot learn new behaviors. A person classified at level 6.0 has no cognitive impairment.

Tingson described several strategies that can be used with persons suffering from early/mild stage, middle/moderate stage, and late/severe stage dementia. For example, there is a strategy that involves breaking activities into small steps, simplifying instruction into easy-to-understand phrases, and providing simple choices that are safe. A person with mild/early stage dementia can be allowed to make choices, while a person with late/severe stage should be provided only one choice at a time.

Tingson offered practical advice for caregivers of a person with dementia. Don't expect too much: Activities that build on current skills and that the person enjoys and has known for a long time are preferable to teaching something new. Help the person get started, break the activity down into small steps, and

praise each step he or she completes. If there are signs of agitation or frustration, redirect the person's attention to something else. Incorporate activities that the person enjoys into the caregiver's daily routine at a similar time. Take advantage of Fleet Landing's health and wellness resources, including IMEP (Integrative Memory Enhancement Program), wellness classes, and physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

## Memorial Day Observed

By Enith Vardaman

Because of the COVID-19, the May 25 Memorial Day program had only some of the elements of Fleet Landing's traditional ceremony, which is organized each year by the Residents' Council. There was no large gathering of residents attired in red, white, and blue; no live patriotic music; no bugler; and no featured speaker. The council still found a way to provide residents a meaningful observance. Current Vice President Eileen Theis; former Vice President Pat Kluever, (USN Ret.); President Bob Burkart (USAF Ret.); and Beryl Hubbard (USAF Ret.) presented an abbreviated program that was broadcast on in-house channel 267.

After welcoming remarks, Theis provided a brief history of Memorial Day from its origins as Decoration Day honoring Civil War dead to today's remembrance of those who have died in all this country's wars. She also noted that this year, COVID-19 had eliminated the nationwide tradition of parades and also limited the decorating of graves with flags and flowers.

After Kluever led viewers in the Pledge of Allegiance, he introduced a video as a tribute to all fallen veterans of WWII and beyond. The video focused on the fate of Aviation Machinist's Mate, 2nd Class, Loyce Edward Deen. He was killed on November 5, 1944, when the rear gunner's cockpit was hit by anti-aircraft fire at the Battle of Manila Bay. The pilot was able to return to the aircraft carrier USS *Essex* because his cockpit was not hit. However, Deen's body was so badly destroyed that he could not be removed from the plane. What followed was a ceremonial burial at sea, with the plane being pushed overboard.

As is customary, tribute was paid to Fleet Landing residents who had died since the previous year's Memorial Day. Burkart and Theis alternated in reading the names. The tolling of a bell followed each name.

Hubbard then offered a prayer, expressing gratitude for those who sacrificed their lives for our country and, in a very contemporary note, for the healthcare workers dealing with the COVID-19 crisis.

In her closing remarks, Theis thanked Manager, Wellness Services, Mary Faria, who had volunteered to serve as producer for the program on her day off.

The ceremony also featured a sideshow of resident and staff veterans in uniform.

## Residents Respond to the Pandemic

Compiled by Enith Vardaman

Fleet Landing residents have pitched in, lifting spirits on campus and undertaking projects to help fellow residents and the wider community.

### Entertainment

Channel 267 performances by Karen Sturtevant, John Johnson, Pat Peterson, the Fleet Five (Gene Alvarez, Bob Armacost, Phil Martin, Julia Pet-Armacost, and Gary Reichow), and the Furry Four (Dan Barry, Tom Dames, Beryl Hubbard, and Walt Trevaskis) have provided musical entertainment. Bob Burkart's "Great Trivia Challenge" series, also broadcast on channel 267, has been a hit.

### Birthday Milestone: Celebrating 100 Years

By Helen Craig

Photos by Helen Craig and John Hedge



*Don and Marquita Miller*



*Part of the parade*



*Wagon with the birthday cards and the famous Rigel rabbits*

With a festive parade and resounding cheers, 100 percent of Rigel Court's 20 households celebrated their most long-lived neighbor, Captain Donald Miller, and his 100 years of distinguished living. On May 17, Rigel residents gathered at the Rigel bus stop clad in colorful outfits, some walking, others with highly decorated golf carts, bicycles, cars, and walkers. Our mascot for the parade was the lovable Harley, Gary and Toni Reichow's irrepressible pooch. Our Grand Marshal was Martha Marchetti who, with the help of several other Rigel ladies, organized this event. With Harley seated beside her in a golf cart, Marchetti led the growing parade from the mailboxes to the Miller residence, where there was a canopy-tent and table for the honored guests, balloons, and banners reading "Cheers to 100 Years." John Hedge pulled a little green wagon loaded with congratulatory cards from all the Millers' Rigel neighbors. It was resplendent with red, white, and blue flags and whirligigs and was guarded by the famous Rigel Court ceramic rabbits who usually reside in the Hedges' front yard.

All gathered to sing "Happy Birthday" and pay tribute to Miller, seated under the canopy with his lovely beaming bride of 77 years, Marquita (also nearing the 100-year age mark). Nearby were the Millers' three children, David, from Atlantic Beach; Leslie Hicks, from the San Francisco Bay area; and Lynne Vines, also from the Bay area, plus Lynne's husband, Jeff. They provided cupcakes for the celebration. They also had written a special "Happy Ad" in that morning's *Florida Times-Union*, honoring their father's 30 years of service as a submarine officer "patrolling the oceans during WWII, Vietnam, and all through the Cold War" as well as his selection for the nuclear Polaris program and subsequent commands. They also celebrated his "great qualities": optimism, honesty, kindness, sensitivity, generosity, and strong faith as well as his being even-keeled, non-judgmental, and always enthusiastic.

All the participants clearly enjoyed the celebration of this well-deserved birthday bash. Many kudos for our remarkable friend and neighbor.

See "Quarantine Scenes" for more birthday celebrations.

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## Residents Respond to the Pandemic

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### Bedroll Project

*Editor's note:* Camille Rigney supplied the information and photos below.



*Balls of plarn*



*Plarn bedroll*



*Plarn bedroll spread out*



*Beverly Norman (l) and Carla Paxton*



*Ray Rigney and Karen Farrell*

Camille Rigney has organized a project to turn the abundant supply of meal-delivery plastic bags into plarn (plastic yarn) to be used to crochet bedrolls for the homeless. Other participants in the project are Linda Burkart, John and Susan Coman, Chris DeVries, Lory Doolittle, Karen Farrell, Mary Kluever, Connie Kolster, Louise Lones, Gerry Nogelo, Beverly Norman, Carla Paxton, Ray Rigney, Joe Ruthenberg, Isobel Spink, and Sandy Taylor.

As of this writing, residents have donated over 2,000 bags for the project. It takes 800 bags at a minimum to make a bedroll. During the month of June, individuals have been meeting three times a week at the Rigney's apartment, four volunteers at a time, socially distanced at two 6-foot tables. They fold the bags flat and then cut them into four strips per bag. They set a goal of cutting all 2,000 of them by the end of June. Ray has been looping the strips together and rolling them into balls of plarn. Burkart, Paxton, and Camille are among the volunteers who will crochet the plarn into bedrolls.

As of June 30, the volunteers suspended folding, cutting, and plarning until October. At that point, they hope to establish the Bedrolls for the Homeless Project as a standing club, where multiple individuals can meet regularly to work on the time-intensive prep work required for creating the bedrolls. Many of the individuals who have been collecting bags and delivering them to the Rigney's door have agreed to store them themselves until the fall.

From start to finish—cut, make plan, crochet—it takes up to ten hours per bedroll. Even if the group makes only a dozen bedrolls a year, these transportable and waterproof bedrolls will make a difference for several individuals. The bonus is repurposing the bags instead of discarding them to a landfill. The bedrolls will be donated to Mission House, the only day facility to help meet the needs of homeless adults at the Beaches through compassion, faith, and programs designed to provide assistance at an individual level.

Camille commented, "Sincere thanks to the many volunteers who have been gathering, folding, and delivering bags, and to the many residents who have collectively contributed to this very worthwhile project. It has been a heartwarming experience for Ray and me."

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## Residents Respond to the Pandemic

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### Mask Project

When masks first began to be recommended, but long before the current Duval County mandate, a group of Fleet Landing ladies set to work to provide masks for any resident who wanted one. Residents responded to the request for donations of the needed supplies. The ladies who used their sewing skills for the benefit of other residents were Margie Bates and Nadja Preston (nieces of Betsy Lewis), Lory Doolittle, Janice Flock, Constance Miller, and Ann Milligan. The project is complete for the moment. However, if any residents need a mask, they can call the concierge, and she will notify one of the volunteers.

## Assisted Living at North Point

By Enith Vardaman



*A rendering of North Point*

Construction of North Point, Fleet Landing's new healthcare building, has progressed dramatically. The first floor is designated for skilled nursing, and the two upper floors will house 38 assisted living apartments ranging in size from 510 to 908 square feet. The building will also have a therapy center. Fleet Landing residents already have the opportunity to reserve an apartment, and the reservation process will be opened for the general public in the near future. Actual occupancy of the building is expected to be in October or November.

A video featuring April Morin, Director, Sales and Marketing, and Senior Living Counselor Jill Pennington introduces residents to assisted living at North Point. The video has been screened several times on in-house channel 267. It shows renderings of amenities, which will include elegant dining facilities and multipurpose rooms as well as a billiards lounge, theater, salon, and library. Each residence has its own washer and dryer and a full-size refrigerator. There will be a concierge, and an experienced team already familiar to residents will oversee operations.

Assistance with activities of daily living, the medical shuttle, three meals per day, WELLInspired programs, 24-hour nursing supervision, and house-keeping, including personal laundry are all included.

Pennington noted that these services, which are tailored to individual needs, empower residents to live independently. The service options were summed up as providing the "opportunity to thrive."

In a segment titled "Mythbusters," Morin and Pennington addressed common conceptions that are and are not true about assisted living. True conceptions include the fact that Fleet Landing residents have guaranteed access to North Point and that while living at North Point (or Leeward Manor), they can come and go as they please, whether on campus or using their own vehicle. A misconception is that North Point residents will no longer be able to dine in the Coleman Center. In fact, they can eat there or in any of the new dining venues, and all other campus activities and amenities are still available to them. Nor is it true that a move to North Point would mean a loss of privacy.

For more information, residents can contact Pennington at [jpennington@fleetlanding.com](mailto:jpennington@fleetlanding.com) or ext 1216.

## Radio-Controlled Sailing Club News

Text and photos by Jim Leipold



*Left: Sailboats in action.*

*Right: Jack Silcox (l) and Andy Wyrick with the latter's boat, a Tippecanoe T37.*

If you want to get back on the water with a sailboat, or you would just enjoy watching sailboats race around markers, bump into each other, get caught in a fountain on the lake, or partially sink and get rescued, while you stay dry and enjoy the winds and sun, then we have the club for you! The Radio-Controlled Sailing Club has boats of all sizes (most of which float), and because of the way the wind shifts on our little lake, participants of all different skill levels look good. Every Saturday at 10:30 am to 11:30 am, we gather lakeside for fun and a little banter. Club members are always willing to let anyone try out a boat. People who have no prior experience but love boating have joined us and discovered how easy it is to manage one of these boats. Members can also help you find a boat of your own. They are friendly, and they have fun sailing and working to help each other keep their boats in top shape. There is no fee, nor are there any attendance requirements—just the desire to be once again on the water and not stress out!



## Beacon Pointe Update

By Enith Vardaman



*Apartment building on June 3*



*New healthcare building on June 3*



*New Windward Commons fitness entrance on June 10*



*New indoor pool on June 10*



*New fitness center, formerly the indoor pool area, on June 10*



*Auditorium, looking east from the relocated stage toward the former adjacent corridor, on June 10*

On June 11, Executive Director Josh Ashby briefed residents on the status of the Beacon Pointe project via in-house channel 267. Lecesce Construction, the contractor, had provided an updated schedule the week before. He cautioned that the report was still being reviewed for accuracy.

Ashby began with showing a series of slides with the first photo and the most recent photo (June 3 or 10) of various parts of the project.

Next, Ashby revealed the delays in the updated schedule. The apartment building construction completion  
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## Beacon Point Update

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date has slipped four to five months, with a new timeline of November 2020 through February 2021. (The apartment building will be turned over in two phases, the 38 apartments in the front half of the building first, and then the 90 apartments in the back half.) The slippage for Windward Commons is also four to five months, with a new completion date of summer or early fall. The timeframe for the restaurant building has increased by five months to a September or October 2020 timeframe. The increase for the healthcare building is three to four months, with a new completion date of October or November 2020.

Ashby expressed considerable dissatisfaction with the contractor, Lecesce, has claimed delays because of COVID-19, but Fleet Landing does not believe that all of them are attributable to such circumstances beyond the control of Lecesce. Contractual financial penalties for the delays will be vigorously pursued.

*Editor's note:* The slides from this presentation can be found under "Fleet Landing Presentations" at myfleetlanding.com and on the My Fleet Landing app and CareMerge.

## More Beacon Pointe Views



*Bob Gossen's aerial view captures most of the project.*

*Windward Commons is in the foreground, the apartment building is in the rear at the left, and the restaurant building is approximately in the center rear.*



*Charlene Kurth's photo shows work in progress on the apartment building.*

## In Memoriam

<b>Carol Conklin</b> 1936-2020	<b>Beth Cueroni</b> 1932-2020
<b>Pat Davis</b> 1927-2020	<b>Pete Doolittle</b> 1941-2020
<b>Doris Dopf</b> 1930-2020	<b>Joy Flaschner</b> 1931-2020
<b>Les Gaskins</b> 1922-2020	<b>Pat Hannan</b> 1937-2020
<b>Bebe Humphries</b> 1929-2020	<b>Ed Joseph</b> 1924-2020
<b>Fran Kinne</b> 1917-2020	<b>Ron Kurth</b> 1931-2020
<b>Harriet Mott</b> 1925-2020	<b>Bea Ouellette</b> 1936-2020
<b>Norma Pendleton</b> 1921-2020	<b>Dick Schlaff</b> 1937-2020
<b>Bonnie Smith</b> 1920-2020	<b>Jack Tetrick</b> 1925-2020

## Fleet Landing in the News

By Enith Vardaman

Three Fleet Landing residents, who were also distinguished Jacksonville residents, have been the subject of feature articles in *The Florida Times-Union*. Sadly, for two of them, it was because of their death, while for the third, it was for an honor bestowed.

In the days before and after her May 10 death, resident Fran Kinne garnered considerable attention in *The Florida Times-Union*. A front-page article in the April 26 edition chronicled her extraordinary life as she was nearing her 103rd birthday, which would have been on May 23. Kinne's many accomplishments—far too many to cite here—included serving as president of Jacksonville University (JU), making her the first woman to serve as a university president in Florida. Sadly, the May 1 edition reported that she had suffered a stroke, and the May 11 edition reported her death. More *Times-Union* items followed: Tributes from a former WTLV TV (First Coast News) reporter and anchor and from a former student appeared in the "Letters to the Editor" column of the May 12 and May 14 editions respectively. The *Times Union* also devoted its "Our View" column in the May 14 edition to Kinne's accomplishments. There was even a lengthy article in the sports section of the May 12 edition that focused on her acts of caring for two basketball players when they were students at JU.

In the June 20 *Times-Union* article reporting the death of Pat Hannan, she was referred to as a nonprofit leader who was a trailblazer and mentor. These are just a few of her many contributions to Jacksonville cited in the article: She served on the board and ultimately as chairman of the Jacksonville Electric Authority (now called

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## Fleet Landing in the News

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simply JEA). The latter position made her the first woman to lead one of the city's independent authorities. She helped develop and then run the Deerwood Center of the Florida State College at Jacksonville. She served an 18-year tenure as president and CEO of the now disbanded Community Connections, which provided assistance and housing for the homeless and services to women, children, and families. She was a member of Jacksonville's Environmental Protection Board and the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women. Because of her instrumental role in the creation of Jacksonville's Sexual Assault Center, she was a recipient of the *Times-Union's* EVE award given to women whose contributions and efforts made lasting improvements within their community. The article also included comments by those whose lives she touched, including Fleet Landing resident Suzanne Montgomery.

Linda Wilkinson was one of the three graduates of Leadership Jacksonville (LJ) honored virtually by that nonprofit organization via YouTube on June 11. COVID-19 had caused cancellation of the planned in-person event. LJ helps to build leaders in Northeast Florida. The article announcing this event, which appeared in the *Times-Union* June 9 edition with photos of the honorees, noted that the event was also a celebration of the 30th anniversary of LJ's Youth Leadership Jacksonville. This is a program for promising high school students. The biographical information about Wilkinson, who was a member of the LJ Class of 1998, cited her impressive array of general community engagement activities and of her service to youth of this area. This is but a partial list: She has been an active volunteer for Youth Leadership Jacksonville. She was actively involved in the campaign to consolidate City of Jacksonville and Duval County governance. She was the first female chair of the Jacksonville Human Rights Commission and the first pediatric oncology social worker at Wolfson Children's Hospital. She has served on the boards of Congregation Ahavath Chesed, The Reed Center for At-Risk Girls, and the Riverside Fine Arts Series.

Below are other Fleet Landing-related items that have appeared in the local press recently:

The bottom half of the front page of the April 9 edition of *The Beaches Leader* was taken up with an article about Fleet Landing during the pandemic. April Morin, Director, Sales and Marketing, was quoted extensively. The article focused largely on the weekday FNN (Fleet News Network) show cohosted by Executive Director Josh Ashby and Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer. Pictures of residents Carolyn Evans and Ray Rigney participating in the contest for recreating famous works of art accompanied the article. The broadcast of exercise classes and marketing staff calls to residents to ascertain any needs were also mentioned.

Four Fleet Landing residents have contributed recently to the "Letters to the Editor" column of *The Florida Times-Union*: Mike Canon on April 30 and June 13, Charon Sisler on May 12, Lory Doolittle on May 30, and Constance Miller on June 23.

In the June 11 edition of *The Beaches Leader*, there was an article about college scholarships awarded to two Fletcher High School seniors by the Beaches Kiwanis Club and the club's donation of \$2,000 to the Beaches Emergency Action Ministry (BEAM) for providing food for students' lunches when the schools closed. Resident Karl Price is pictured with the scholarship recipients in the accompanying photo. An item about the awarding of the scholarships that appeared in the "Good News" column of the June 12 edition of *The Florida Times-Union* was accompanied by the same photo. Price is cited as noting the BEAM gift as well as a \$1,300 donation to a sister Kiwanis Club in Kiev, Ukraine, to assist children and war refugees in the area.

According to an article in the July 2 edition of *The Beaches Leader*, Resident Alice Stratton received national recognition at the recent annual DAR Continental Congress. She received a 50-year service pin, Women in History designation, and the Ellen Hardin Walworth Founder's Medal for Patriotism.

## Lake Constellation



*In Ann Bell's photo, the colors of the spectacular sky are reflected in the waters of the lake.*



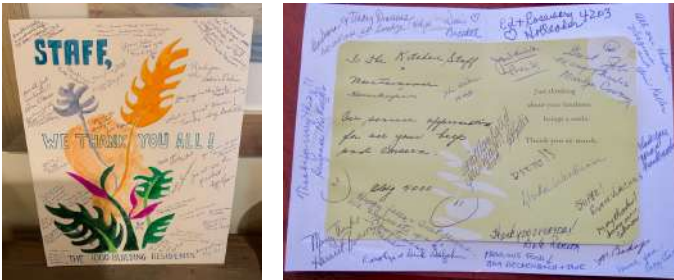
*When Dottie Mann took this picture, the waters of the lake were still, allowing for a clear reflection of the houses and trees.*



## Quarantine Scenes



*The Residents' Council found a way for residents to express their gratitude to Fleet Landing staff for exceptional care during the pandemic. These signs were placed throughout the campus by Carolyn Evans and Eileen Theis. Antares Court residents added personal thanks to their sign.*



*1000 and 4000 Building residents signed and displayed these thank you cards. Jean Ludlow provided the art work for the Building 1000 card on the left. Photos by Enith Vardaman (l) and Ed Hollender.*



*A shipment of 50,000 takeout containers*



*Fleet Landing has provided lunch for staff once weekly.*



*Preparing a McLanding dinner:  
Top left: Chris Gotschall cooks the hamburgers.  
Top right: A finished product.  
Bottom: Servers assemble the McLanding meals.*



*Fleet Landing had its own popup drive-in theater on May 6 and 7. On the first night, Sully was shown on the inflatable screen to an appropriately socially distanced audience. Sound was through FM radio in each car. What would a movie be without snacks? Staff gave attendees a bag with popcorn, M&M's, and water as they drove in. Photo by Dick Schlaff.  
(continued on next page)*



## Quarantine Scenes

(continued from preceding page)



Fleet Landing provided daycare for children of staff who did not have alternate means of caring for them when the schools closed because of COVID-19. One project: The students painted rocks and added inspirational sayings. They were called Joy Rocks for Jennifer Joy, Director, Wellness Services, who oversaw the daycare camp. Pictured are some of the rocks that were placed around campus for residents to find, photograph, and place elsewhere for someone else to discover.



*"Fleet Landing Still Life" is the amusing caption Anne Leyden provided for her photo.*



*A sign of the times: With Fleet Landing's usual abundance of events curtailed because of COVID-19, the activities board is no longer filled with flyers. Photo by Enith Vardaman.*



*As the number of rocks gradually diminished, tennis balls briefly took their place. Photos by Enith Vardaman.*



*Kathy Long and David Solomon provided Easter treats. A humorous sign described the precautions they took because of COVID-19 and the measures to be observed by the beneficiaries of the treats. Photo by Connie Kolster.*  
(continued on next page)



## Quarantine Scenes

(continued from preceding page)



*The Easter Bunny paid a visit to Safety and Security and then borrowed a golf cart to make other stops on campus.*



*The contest portion of the FNN (Fleet News Network) broadcast, also known as the Josh and Travis Show, has been quite popular. Observing social distancing, Chris Wellington delivers certificates to winners (from top) Carolyn Evans, Ann Marie O'Roark, Monica and Jim Coté, Kathy and John Hedge, and Patricia Clarkson.*  
(continued on next page)



*Anne Leyden provided this caption for her photo: "We loved our Easter egg surprise! Many thanks to all of you who are taking such good care of us." Judging by the crumpled wrappers, she and Bill had already enjoyed some chocolate, an unexpected treat that came with the Easter meals.*



## Quarantine Scenes

(continued from preceding page)



*Like so much else, birthday celebration gatherings have been affected by COVID-19. Family arranged this display for Steve Jarecki. He is seen here holding a cake delivered by servers who also sang "Happy Birthday" to him. Photo by Rachel Carmack.*



*Polaris Court resident Sally Reinhart smiles as her friends and neighbors hold a drive-by celebration in honor of her major milestone. Photos by Dick Fuller.*

*Editor's Note:* I did not always know who took the pictures. Apologies to photographers who were not acknowledged.

## Library Notes

By Enith Vardaman

We thank our recent donors: Bea Beckenbach, Tom Devenny (husband of Resident Billing/Accounting Assistant Maryann Devenny), Catherine Grant, Karen

Hassler, Kathy and John Hedge, Anne and Don Husmann, Ann and Bob Linn, Dottie Mann, Bunny Morgan, Carla Philcox, Sally Pitard, Elena Rigg, Estate of Dick Schlaff, Shirley Stavridis, Chris Stanley, Estate of Jack Tetrick, Dean Veremakis, Michele West Stevens, Judy Wager (daughter of Rose Marie Edson), and Eathel Weimer.

The Library Committee is pleased that residents have found the Dinda Library to be a useful resource during the pandemic.

**Reminders:** Please be careful not to return Jacksonville Public Library books to the Dinda Library. If you donate a book purchased at another library's book sale, please make sure we can tell that the book was indeed deaccessioned from that library. Otherwise, we do not know whether or not we should try to make an effort to return it to its rightful owner.

## Village Project Progress



*Bob Gossen's aerial photo shows the status of the project on May 31.*

## How to Prepare for a Hurricane

By Isobel Spink

On June 16, Executive Director Josh Ashby and Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer briefed Fleet Landing residents on hurricane preparedness during their FNN (Fleet News Network) broadcast on in-house channel 267. We were shown slides of the devastation caused by hurricanes Dora, Irma, Michael, and Dorian in Jacksonville and other cities. Ashby and Schryer both emphasized how lucky we were to escape Dorian last year.

The official hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30. Unfortunately, the forecast for the 2020 season is unsettling. NOAA has forecast thirteen to nineteen named storms, six to ten hurricanes

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## How to Prepare for a Hurricane

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and three to six major hurricanes. A major hurricane is a Category 3 or higher, with winds from 111 to 129 mph. These numbers are not only higher than 2019, but above the 30-year average, which is twelve named storms, six hurricanes, and three major hurricanes. Schryer indicated that Labor Day seems to be the kickoff for hurricanes, but historically both hurricanes and tropical storms spike in August, September, and October.

Schryer described Fleet Landing's preparations. He said that Fleet Landing had a legal obligation to continue to provide the same level of care and service to its three healthcare environments, the Derfer Pavilion, The Nancy House, and Leeward Manor, in the event of a disaster. Fleet Landing submits its Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to the Division of Emergency Preparedness of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department annually for review. Fleet Landing has an evacuation site, to which the equipment, supplies, and people needed to provide 24-hour service will be transported. Residents would go by Fleet Landing vehicle and private ambulance, and supplies, including food, water, medications, and medical records, by trucks.

Independent living residents were asked to submit a form showing their evacuation plans. Although the 98 percent response rate to the request within a few weeks was very encouraging, the hope is that 100 percent will respond.

Independent living residents should make two emergency kits with such items as clothes, medications, and important documents—one to take with them and one to leave in a high place in the home in case needed upon return. Kits should be made for pets as well. Important numbers, which could include emergency contacts, relatives, and neighbors, should be written down. Be sure to write down the Fleet Landing emergency hotline number (904-694-2448), which will provide messages about current conditions and whether it is safe to return home. Remember that numbers stored in a cell phone would become unavailable if the phone could not be charged because of a power outage.

Independent living residents evacuating on their own should figure out a safe place to go and how to get there. Because of potential traffic problems, it is advisable to leave well before an emergency evacuation order is issued.

There has been a 30 percent increase in independent living residents who want to evacuate with Fleet Landing this year. This could necessitate three to four residents having to share a room at the hotel evacuation site. Residents were encouraged to reconsider whether they would be comfortable self evacuating. The deadline for informing the concierge of their change of plans was June 23.

Communication about a mandatory evacuation will be done via Fleet Landing's emergency broadcast system (call and text), not via social media. Any resident who has not received alerts from this system during the pandemic should contact Administrative Assistant Megan Clemensen (ext 1105) so that he or she can be entered into the system.

Residents leaving early because of the possibility of a mandatory evacuation order should checkout at the Mayport Road gate. In the event of a mandatory evacuation order, all residents will be required to leave the campus, and traffic will be limited to the Mayport Road gate. The campus will not be staffed during the storm.

## The "New Normal": A Webinar Ambassadors Meeting

By Chet Davis

On May 15, Director, Sales and Marketing, April Morin led the first Fleet Landing Ambassadors meeting conducted by Zoom webinar. A pre-webinar survey of Ambassadors had shown that over 90 of them were familiar with the Zoom conferencing application, and 61 logged in for the first venture.

Marketing staff are adapting to challenges caused by the pandemic, including a significant dip in consumer confidence and restraints on having people visit the campus because of physical distancing requirements. They are learning new technologies like Zoom, and they are using them to communicate information about Fleet Landing to the homes of potential residents.

Morin said that marketing staff, working from home, have been maintaining existing relationships with prospects, including those in the database of persons who have requested information about Fleet Landing. This effort, bolstered by Fleet Landing's strong reputation, has been successful in keeping our community's existing neighborhoods 100 percent reserved and occupied. Beacon Pointe was all but fully reserved. The wait lists for the existing campus (Atlantic Club) and Beacon Pointe (Horizon Club) remain substantial.

Morin previewed Fleet Landing's updated website, which was to launch during the third week of May. It will still be found at [fleetlanding.com](http://fleetlanding.com). She also gave the Ambassadors a sneak peek at renderings of areas of North Point, the new healthcare building. (For more information about North Point, see article on page 7.)

Morin reported that as of January 1, the separate marketing of Beacon Pointe ended. Now all senior living counselors for independent living market both existing campus and expansion units.

As a final note to this successful webinar, the Ambassador mission of offering a positive view of Fleet Landing and encouraging prospects to select this community as their future home was reaffirmed.

## COVID-19 Challenge Continues

*(continued from page 1)*

campus trips, Mary Faria, Manager, Wellness Services, is available to assist those unfamiliar with online ordering. The exercise classes broadcast on channel 267 remain popular. Exercise Physiologist Alisa Blanchard has added a "fit trail," i.e., exercises posted at each bus stop for residents to do when walking around the campus. Senior Director, Health Care Services, Julia Pratt, and her staff are going above and beyond in meeting the exceptional measures required to care for skilled nursing, assisted living, and memory care residents during this pandemic.

Director, Food and Beverage, James Puchel, Executive Chef Chris Gotschall, and the entire Dining Services staff have done an extraordinary job of preparing and delivering some 1,000 meals daily. Of necessity, the menu choices are not as extensive as under normal circumstances, but there is still impressive variety. And then there have been holiday menus, including Easter (a plastic Easter egg with chocolates inside was a special touch), Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day (a carnation that accompanied the delivered meals was a pleasant surprise), and Father's Day as well as the very popular occasional special menus, pizza (Fleetza-Pizza), hamburgers (McLanding), and Chinese (Fleet Garden). The meal ordering procedure is working smoothly, and the task of acquiring a huge number of food containers in appropriate sizes has been mastered.

FNN (Fleet News Network) has become wildly popular. It continues to be cohosted by Executive Director Josh Ashby and Chief Operating Officer Travis Schryer, with April Morin, Director, Sales and Marketing sometimes serving as a substitute cohost. The production team of Faria and Administrative Assistant Megan Clemensen provide excellent support. As our "new normal" situation stabilized, FNN scaled back broadcasts to Tuesdays and Thursdays from its former every weekday schedule, although extra broadcasts are scheduled if circumstances warrant.

The reason for the show's popularity is not hard to understand. It provides the latest word on COVID-19 as it affects Fleet Landing, and it provides residents an opportunity to have their questions on a variety of topics answered. Beyond that, there are a number of informative and entertaining features, including a conversation with a guest of the day; photos submitted by residents, either of items of interest on campus or as submissions to the various challenges; a trivia question; a "This Day in History" item; and announcement of birthdays. A more recent addition is the "CareMerge Feature of the Day," highlighting a particular aspect of this new community engagement portal. It will replace the My Fleet Landing app and the resident portal, FlipSide, which will both be eliminated on August 1.

Training for resident use of CareMerge, originally

scheduled for the first few days of April, had to be canceled when the pandemic resulted in limitations on the size of gatherings and the necessity for social distancing. Fleet Landing adapted to the new reality by offering training sessions via Zoom with Director, Wellness Services, Jennifer Joy, and a representative of CareMerge. Residents were invited in groups. Each training session was followed on the next day by a question and answer session. A significant number of residents are now exploring the capabilities of this new resource. A next step is to change the name from CareMerge to something specific to Fleet Landing. A request for resident suggestions resulted in over 160 submissions, 64 of which were chosen for the bracket-style "2020 CareMerge Name Tournament." The tournament was still underway at this writing.

Fleet Landing staff have done an exceptional job of handling this crisis. Besides being well cared for, residents can be confident that they are being kept well informed. Transparency—including notifying residents promptly of the total of six positive results from the 1,683 COVID-19 tests completed as of this writing—has been a hallmark. Of the three skilled nursing residents and three staff members who tested positive, five were asymptomatic. The sixth person, a staff member, has experienced mild symptoms.

In challenging times, Fleet Landing is a good place to live. As one resident put it, "I wouldn't want to be anywhere else right now."

## Virginia Byrd's Pigs Celebrate



*The pigs observed all the recent holidays and special events.*

*Top left: Easter. Top right: Memorial Day.  
Bottom left: Cinco de Mayo. Bottom right: 4th of July.*



## Feathered Visitors

In recent months, there has been an abundance of avian activity on campus. Some of these birds have not been commonly seen here before, if at all. Sadly, although for the first time there were three osprey chicks, none ultimately survived.



*Megan Clemensen took this picture of a family of ducks in the swimming pool. The mama duck hopped out of the pool by herself, but the ducklings required assistance from maintenance staff.*



*Pat Kluever found this rapidly growing brood of ducklings exploring the Coleman Center lakeside.*



*Left: This adolescent hawk swooped down in front of Cynthia Graham while she was practicing Tai Chi.  
Right: Enith Vardaman took this picture of a little blue heron that has been sighted several times on campus recently.*



*Great white egrets are a common sight on campus, but not nearly this many at one time. Dottie Mann took the picture. Her internet search revealed that "congregation" is one of the terms for a group of egrets.*

*Dick Fuller, our most prolific provider of bird and other wildlife photos, submitted all the following pictures.*



*Our cormorants are usually seen in much smaller numbers. "Gulp" is one of the names for a group of them.*



*Two pairs of geese have had offspring.  
(continued on next page)*



## Feathered Visitors

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*A gathering of all three of this year's duckling broods, two still quite small, and the third partially grown.*



*More unusual visitors: blue-winged teals*



*Fuller provided the humorous commentary for his unique great white egret photo taken just after Jacksonville's mayor instituted the mask mandate.*

## Bridge News

By CeCe Lichtenstein

The American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) has declared there will be NO regional or national tournaments for the remainder of 2020. Sectionals, which typically are up to the individual clubs, were not mentioned. However, with the current uptick of COVID-19 in Florida, my thoughts are that even sectionals will be very reduced in number. For those who are anxious to play bridge, BBO (Bridge Base Online is

“alive and well.” There are free games. However, for a fee you can play at virtual club games that give money back to the clubs. There are games for a lesser fee that also give masterpoints, but are played against robots.

For those of you who may be interested in purchasing a bridge book, but don't want to invest a lot of money, here's a news flash: Baron Barclay, the primary supplier of bridge books and other bridge “stuff,” has indicated that many e-books are available for use with a Kindle. If you have an Apple or Microsoft tablet, you can download the Kindle app from their app stores. Baron Barclay's e-book offerings are best viewed by visiting [BaronBarclay.com](http://BaronBarclay.com), although I think you can also visit Amazon to check out the offerings.

Stay well, read books, and don't forget your partners.

## New Residents' Council

(continued from page 1)

eight candidates would have five minutes each to introduce themselves to residents during the May 12 FNN broadcast, and the other four, during the May 13 broadcast. Ballots would be delivered to individual residences on May 13. Ballot boxes would be placed at multiple sites around campus. Voting would begin on the afternoon of May 13 and conclude at noon on May 16.

Carolyn Evans, outgoing council president, announced the results during the May 18 FNN broadcast. Janice Flock, whose term had expired, was reelected. Because she garnered the most votes, her term will be three years. Kerstin Chelius, Nancy Russell, and Jess Stewart were elected to two-year terms, replacing Evans, Kluever, and Elena Rigg, whose terms had expired. Larry Bell and Jim Coté will complete the final year of the terms of Don Dinwiddie and Tom Hilton, who had retired from the council.

Bob Burkart announced the responsibilities of the new council during the May 20 FNN broadcast. The officers are Burkart, president; Eileen Theis, vice president; and Russell, secretary. The other responsibilities are as follows:

Bell: Safety and Security and Housekeeping  
Chelius: Finance and Marketing  
Imogene Coleman: Wellness, Transportation, Clubs  
Coté: Dining and Human Resources  
Flock: Health and Leeward Liaison  
Stewart: Facilities and Remodeling

Burkart paid tribute to the former council members. He also reported that the new procedures had resulted in a highly successful election, with 409 independent living residents (85 percent) voting. The participation rate was 125 percent higher than in the last two elections.

See page 2 for the report of the first meeting of the new council on June 19. Because of the pandemic, it was a virtual meeting broadcast on channel 267 from the Coleman Auditorium.