

# WESTMINSTER CRIER

Upcoming Events- Don't Miss out!

**Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony-**

Saturday, Dec. 2 at 6 pm

Wine, beer, soda, and light snacks

Music by Kaleidoscope- a Sweet Adeline's acapella group

\$5 donation per person for the group

Bring an ornament with your family name and year you joined Westminster to help decorate the tree



**Christmas caroling- Saturday,**

**December 16**



Meet at the club between 4 and 4:30

Caroling starts at 5 pm

Decorate your cart and dress festive

## **Christmas for the Guards is back!!**

Last year many of you showed your appreciation of the work our guards do for all of us. The Guards received gift cards and food for Christmas and New Years' days at the guard house because of your generosity. IF you are interested in donating again, please stop by the Westminster Community Office to see Paul or Jessica OR contact Betsy Rosser at [brosser@brockport.edu](mailto:brosser@brockport.edu). Let's make it a special holiday time for our Guards!!!



## **Holiday Train Village**

**2105 Oxford Ridge Circle**

**Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve**

**6-9 nightly**

**Come Enjoy Some Holiday Spirit!**



*Westminster Golf Club's*

***New Year's  
CELEBRATION***

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**MENU**

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APPETIZERS

Shrimp Cocktail or Italian Breaded Ravioli

ENTREE 1

Hearty portion of Prime Rib of Beef, vegetable  
and a twice baked potato w/choice of caesar or  
Italian mix salad, rolls and butter

Entree 2

Chicken Francese Pasta Vegetable w/choice of  
caesar or Italian mix salad, rolls and butter

Open Bar 9-10 pm.

(Wells, Draught Beer, Wine)

Champagne Toast at Midnight

D.J. Lenny will be here for your entertainment

\$75.00 per person

Reservations are needed sign-up sheets are  
available at the Westminster Bar or call

Dining times 7:30 pm., 8:00 pm, and 8:30pm.

(239) 368-6541

Sad News- Our thoughts are with the family at this difficult time

Barbara Louise (Erickson) Lindroth, age 79, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on October 30, 2017. She was born on May 2, 1938 in New Haven, CT to her parents John Olaf and Louise Erickson. On May 16, 1959, she married Nils George Lindroth. In 1967, Barbara and Nils built a home in Clinton, CT where they raised their three children. They moved to Lehigh Acres, FL in 1986.

Over her lifetime, Barbara worked for Robby Len Swimwear, Fuller Brush, Saybrook Bowl, Budget Print, Chesebrough-Ponds Credit Union, Lehigh Corporation, Goldberg, Rubenstein and Buckley, and Sony. She was an avid bowler and loved to dance! In retirement, she enjoyed volunteering for Hope Hospice, Meals on Wheels and her church.

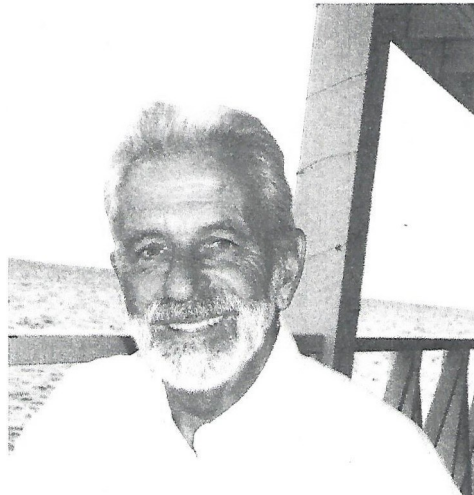
Barbara is survived by her husband, Nils; her brother, John Erickson of Wallingford, CT; her daughter Cheryl Mahon and her husband Steve of Colorado Springs, CO; her daughter Audra Phillips and her husband Rodney of Lake Mary, FL; her son Nils and his wife Angela of Lehigh Acres, FL; and her grandchildren Brett, Sarah, Neil, Scott, Shane and Spencer.

Barbara's family will be holding a private celebration of her life.

## Sad News

Our thoughts are with the family at this time

### Memorial Service for Flip Plancon



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Date: Saturday, December 9, 2017

Time: 1:30-3:30 pm

Place: Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
705 Leland Heights Rd, Lehigh Acres

*Note: This is an event that is open to the public*



## Thoughts on winter watering from your Irrigation committee

Before we talk about this winter let's review last spring.

Throughout last spring Westminster and Florida was experiencing a state-wide drought and flash fires were popping up all over the state. You might recall the closing of 75 because of wildfires in the Everglades which were impossible to contain because of high winds. Locally wells were drying up in homes all around us, our lakes were way down and our four wells went dry as well. The wells were pumping air and we had no choice but to shut down the wells and to go to mandatory watering one day per week

One thing we hope to achieve is to supply you with information and prompt you to make adjustments to your irrigation system now. By acting now we have the potential for saving millions of gallons of water with a goal of avoiding another 2017 spring.

## Watering Continued

Winters in Florida are beautiful --- isn't this why we are here? How are winters different? For starters the days are much shorter and the temperatures a lot cooler. How does this effect watering. Quite simply our lawns and plants require less water. In fact too much water at this time of year can be harmful to your lawns. A healthy lawn has a root system that goes down to tap on sub surface water. Overwatering creates a lawn that ceases to put down deep roots. Such a lawn can really be hurt when like last spring we went to once weekly watering. When driving around our community the difference in neighboring lawns was often striking with some lawns doing much better than others. Now you know one of the reasons for this difference.

Your irrigation control boxes have a seasonal adjustment for the reasons mentioned above but using this feature can be complicated so we are going to give you some guidelines.

Immediately set your pop-up sprinkler heads to water no more than 20 minutes and your rotary heads to water no more than 30 minutes. Areas on our community like Fairloop Run with central control of their irrigation are already doing this and their lawns look great. In fact they use this setting year round with great results. In the summer when



## Watering Continued

things here get really hot there is also lots of rain so things balance out.

if you have set your system to go on whenever the pumps are on or are watering more than twice weekly you are hurting your lawn and your community by using too much water. So please return to the Lee County approved watering schedule. Yes we as a community can be fined for failing to follow Lee County irrigation guidelines.

The Lee County guidelines allow residential watering on two days per week.

Homes with even number are allowed to water on Thursday and Sunday

Homes with odd numbers are allowed to water on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

*Your irrigation committee, Chuck Bennett, Jack Griffith, Rick Coronati, and John Maestrelli*

## Westminster Storm Drain Analysis

It's been over two months since Irma paid our community a visit and things are starting to get back to "normal". Sadly, a few of our worst hit neighbors are still waiting for their homes' interiors to be put back together, and for those with cage damage and missing screens cohabitation with insects is a new "norm", Thankfully we had our screens replaced this week so no more dragonflies with TV.

As mentioned in our post Irma analysis there was a real question about our storm drains, and if they could have contributed to our flooding issues. It would seem that for every need there is a company out there to address that need which led us to **Sewer Viewers**, a Ft Myers based company that makes its living surveying storm drainage systems and correcting problems discovered during their investigation.

**Sewer Viewer** spent two full days at Westminster and put their remotely operated ROV Submarine through almost all of our drains. Their ROV is fascinating --- twin electric motors, headlights, 600 feet of control cable and operated with a joy stick controller by an operator who sits in front of a monitor and directs the vehicle through the drains. The entire process is recorded on a DVD and accompanies a report/assessment of each drain

## Storm Drain Analysis Continued

toured. I am including pictures of their Van, the control viewer and the ROV.

I personally spent both days with Mike and John, the Sewer viewer operators, and was impressed with how quickly they got into and out of our drains and analyzed our conditions. Spending the time with them was both educational and informative and allowed me to better understand our conditions and the follow up work they recommended. One thing I learned was how extensive and complicated our storm drainage system is. We see the storm drains in our street but often the street drains are connected to drains on the golf course. You golfers have seen the large iron grates; well these grates either come back to the street or to a network of concrete pipes (ranging in size from 36" to 18") and all carry water back to our lakes.

In respect to their findings, our storm drains did not contribute to our flooding issues. In fact most of the drains had little to no accumulation of sand or silt, so no follow up was necessary. But there were several drains which had accumulations from 1/3 to 50%, and Sever Viewers will be coming back during the dry season to flush these drains. Noteworthy is the fact that several of the silted drains were those which carried water from the golf course to our street drains.

## Storm Drain Analysis Continued

Flushing and removing the silt from these drains is important as the concern is that left unchecked these drains will continue to accumulate sediment until they are no longer properly functioning. So you will be seeing very large vacuum trucks next spring and know that your drains will be cleaner due to Irma

Chuck Bennett

Chair Ground Water and Irrigation Committee, Jack Griffith, Rick Coronati and John Maestrelli

# Pictures of Sewer Viewer



## Notes From Paul Braid

Saturday afternoon most of the irrigation timers on Berkley Way will be inspected for correct watering days and watering times. Your timer may be changed for proper days or time.

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## Notice

The 2018 Approved Budget, along with a note from Bill Cossart, will be sent out this week either by e-mail or mail.

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Check out the holiday decorations at front and back gates



The Crier is your newsletter. IF you have a new neighbor, please have them e mail the crier so they can be added to our listing. IF you have moved and no longer wish to receive the Crier, please e mail the Crier to be taken off the list.

Please forward items or pictures to westminster-crier@gmail.com at least 2 weeks ahead of time for publication. This address is just for submitting items to the crier. Concerns about information appearing in the crier should be addressed at the office.

The next regular Crier will be published the week of **December 11**