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49th Year

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February 2026

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Events

Bingo Committee	Anne Knott
	Kevin Rainsforth
	Paula Bunevith
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Fun Shuffle.....	Team Captains
Golf	Ron Tasior
	Ed Richtmyer
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Pickleball.....	Staicy Boyd Gunter
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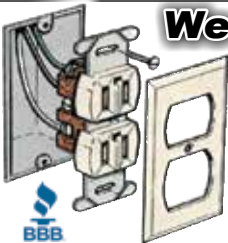
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President's Report

By Tammy Davis #21



Happy Valentine's Day to everyone.

Our members' annual meeting and elections is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Clubhouse. Hope to see you there.

If you haven't done so already, please sign up for electronic communications. This saves the HOA on mailing costs.

Owners, if you are renting your homes, please make sure you leave a copy of our rules available for your tenants to read. We also have a copy of our rules in the Clubhouse Library.

As a reminder, all work that you do on the outside of your unit must be approved prior to work beginning. This includes replacement of HVAC systems, any refresh painting of driveways and units, lattice work, skirting, etc.

Our activities are in full swing at the Clubhouse, so please sign up and participate. It is a great way to meet new members.

Have a great February!

Tammy Davis





From the Editor's Desk

By Chris Rainsforth Unit 215 | Phone: 226 224 5503(Mobile) | goldenacresr.o.newsletter@gmail.com

Greetings:

First I would like to mention Sue Bailey on behalf of all the residents of Golden Acres for her hard work on the Newsletter for the last 12 years. It involves far more than anyone can imagine. Sue has kindly offered to be the newsletter contact person for delivery of the Newsletter from NewsMedia. Thank you Sue.



I look forward to editing and producing the newsletter.

Please take a moment to fill in the newsletter sheets in the Clubhouse. I am, by Coach Number, requesting you to fill in them months that you will be in residence at Golden Acres. I would like to decrease the number of printed Newsletters delivered. There are too many going into the recycle and landfill. The option to filling in the form in the clubhouse is to drop me a quick email with your coach number and months. I am please to continue sending the Newsletter to those on the email list and would be pleased to add anyone who would like to stay informed about Golden Acres even when unable to get the hard copy.

The sign-up list for volunteers to deliver the printed copy is also in the Clubhouse. If there is not a volunteer available, the printed copies will be available in the library. I understand that this is not usually an issue. Thank you volunteers.

Guidelines for the Newsletter.

1. Please note the list of due dates for submission is posted in the Clubhouse.
2. **March deadline is February 10, 2026.** This is a hard deadline to have articles included in the printed newsletter copy.
3. Would love to have submissions letting us know some of the fun things you're doing when you are not at Golden Acres. Electronic submissions only please.
4. Articles or postings that put money in your personal pocket will NOT be posted. No political articles.
5. If your article does not make the printed copy it hopefully makes the e-newsletter. Photos are limited in the printed NewsMedia. Not so in the e-newsletter. The e-newsletter will be available at <https://goldenacresfl.com/> as well as it will be emailed to members whom have provided an email address. The e-newsletter will be sent by the end of the previous month.
6. Please have permission from people in your photos before they are posted. Please include names with photos.
7. We love to hear about GA mini reunions, it is nice to see and hear about past members.

Have a great winter season in Golden Acres. For those unable to make it down this year, please stay safe and healthy(and warm).

Chris Rainsforth



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Rec Comm Report, February 2025

By Maureen Shannon #200 Recreation Committee Chair
mshannon@capecod.edu 508-776-8778



To those still returning, Welcome Back! Remember, Wednesday Weekly is still on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. Please join us and feel free to ask questions, if you need an answer.

Well, the year is off to a great start. We're one-third through the yearly calendar. By the time you read this, we should just be finishing the yearly meet & greet, on Thursday, January 22, 2026. Thank you, Mark & Lyn Johnson for all you do/done for GA.

February is jammed packed, 50th anniversary, Valentines Day, hosted by Steve & Linda Swann on Thursday, February 12, 2026 from 7 to 10 pm. The tickets are \$10 pp. Then of course, the monthly breakfast and progressive cards. The month will end with Derby night on Saturday night, February 28, 2026 starting at 6 pm. With that being said, we're into March, 2026. Penny sale, Can Am and Spring fling at the end of the month,

We are in desperate need of volunteers to continue to enjoy these events. If we don't get them, we won't be able to have them. Easter 2026 needs a host. Also, the 2026 New Year's Eve dance does too. We can't hire a band without a host. This is true for all our 2026 activities/events. Remember, it takes a village, and this is our village. We need everyone to continue to enjoy our activities. Please feel free to contact me at any time to answer any questions. We're all here for each other. THANK YOU

PS

Remember, the Rec Committee activities schedule is always changing. Please check the schedule in the clubhouse for corrections or additions.

New Year's Eve

Nancy and Eric # 67 and Jack and Claudia #141



This year we had a tropical theme for our New Year's Eve dance.

The Clubhouse was decorated with colorful tropical items. All of the lighted jars that were placed around the Clubhouse were hand painted by Claudia and Nancy. There were 65 people who rang in the New Year. A big thanks to Jimmy and Robin for their extra help in setting up the black curtains, and to the crew of people who helped transform our Clubhouse to a tropical paradise.

Claudia and Nancy

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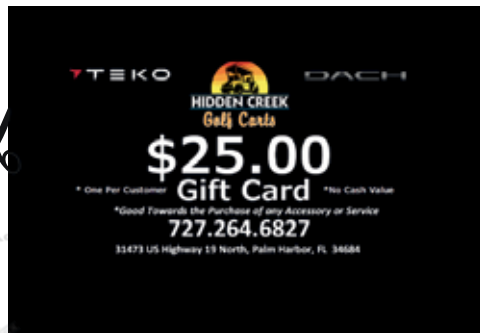


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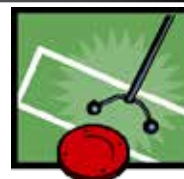


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Golden Acres Shuffle

By Rose West #



February Shuffle Report

Our shuffle courts have been painted and not only do they look great, the park assets shuffle area has been given new life and sparkle! We are grateful and thankful to the Board for their wonderful support in making this project successful. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped prep the courts before painting the framework and courts, namely Dave Merriam, Peter Modny, Jim List and John West. Dave Merriam and John West took the old scoreboards down and installed the new scoreboards; Dave Merriam with his ingenuity added necessary components to the scoreboards. We avoided buying new scoreboard lights with Dave Merriam painting those rusty light covers and adding much needed proper light bulbs. They look brand new! We are so thankful to Jack Bailey for donating his time and wonderful woodworking skills to build our shuffle stick holders from scratch, which John West painted. Jack did an amazing job! We are so fortunate to have had the assistance of our amazing shuffleboard volunteers. John West is now in the final stages of getting the courts ready for use by waxing all our courts.

Shuffle Under the Stars is set to start January 14.

For anyone interested in joining our Golden Acres Shuffleboard League, kindly call Rose at 705-792-8852 or sign up at the club house. Shuffle is a great game at any age, lots of fun, and keeps one active. And if I may say so, also easy on the body! Hope to see you join us!

Rose West

Shuffle is a great

G. A. Pickleball Club

By Staicy Boyd #46

Pickleball is once again alive and well in Dunedin. The sport continues to grow substantially each year with the actual number of people currently playing pickleball in North America being well in the millions. Both USA Pickleball and Pickleball Canada have over 80,000 registered members who enjoy the benefit of accident insurance coverage, tournament play and a wide variety of resources.



Our club members have been playing an average of two hours, three times a week. Depending on court availability, we vary our play location between Eagle Scout Park on Virginia Avenue and Highlander Park behind the Dunedin Recreation Centre.

We've gone "high tech" this year and now use the Team Reach app to schedule our play and record member participation.

continued on page 14



Our group is always excited to take on new players.

So..... if you are a Pickler and want to hit the courts again or you'd like to start learning this amazing sport and meet some kind, like-minded people then please, contact Staicy Boyd or Bruce Gunter at #46 or email me at ESBMinto@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you. Paddles Up!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

by Norma Moore

Golden Acres February Birthdays

We want to mention all those who are celebrating this month and send them our very best wishes.

Denise Irwin	February 1
Janice Good	February 2
Tony Vanderheyden	February 3
Bo Linden	February 7
Brandon Boehme	February 9
Pat Courtney Dugan	February 10
Paul Casavecchia	February 13
Mike Preston	February 13
Bethany Chorba	February 14
Jim Davis	February 14
Mary Stewart	February 14
Stephen Swann	February 14
Terry Woods	February 16
Jean Key	February 19
Beverly Collins	February 21
Lori Nickle	February 21
Anna-Lisa DeLuca	February 22
Jeff Dugan	February 22
Denise Olsen	February 22
Diana Roggenbuck	February 22
Katherine Schmitt	February 22
Susan Jarema	February 23
Mark Kirincich	February 23
Anne Knott	February 23
Stephen McCann	February 24
Barbara Sanford	February 24
Michael Stoffel	February 26



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Golden Acres February Anniversaries

Thomas and Angela Franz	February 14
Richard and Patricia Higgins	February 14
Steven and Dorene Robertson	February 14
Steve and Debbie Pollard	February 16
William and Carol Smith	February 22



50th Anniversary 2026

By Paula Bunevith #202 & Kathy Schmitt #217

Our annual 50th Anniversary Party will be held Sunday February 15th at 1 pm in the clubhouse. This year we are honoring Steven and Dorene Robertson and Gordon and Glenda Spafford. A sign up sheet so we can plan refreshments will be available in the clubhouse. Please come and celebrate this great occasion. Hope to see all of you there.



Golden Acres FUN Facebook Page

Administrators: Elaine and Jerry Unit 216

Do you want to see if anyone in the park can use your old bike? Are you wondering when the first dance will be? There's a Facebook page for that. It is a private page created by residents for residents of Golden Acres Mobile Home Park. It is called **Golden Acres Resident Owned Fun Group**. We invite all Golden Acres homeowners to join.

The page has been very helpful to residents. It provides an outlet for selling or giving away unneeded belongings. The Recreation Committee announces activities happening in the park. Residents often share photos of family, fun up north, and vacations.

If you are already in the Golden Acres Facebook group, great! Continue to use it and share news about your summer. If you are not in the group, do a search for Golden Acres Resident Owned Fun Group and request to join the page. We have about 200 members. We hope you will be a member soon, too. ***Please note to see and become a member you must have a Facebook account.*****

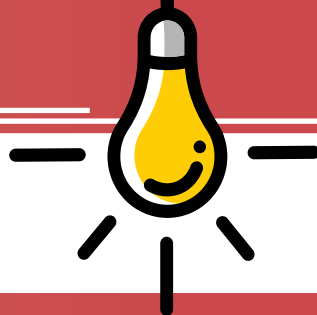
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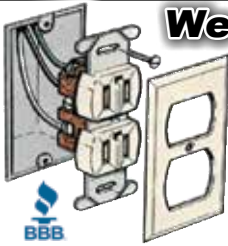
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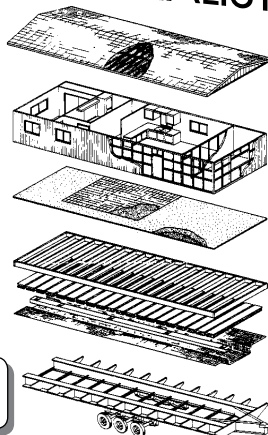
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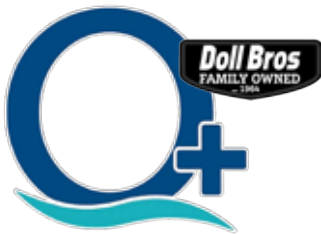


FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
1	2	
	Indoor Exercise 8am Blood Pressure Clinic 9:30-11am Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle League BINGO 7pm <i>Groundhog Day</i>	
8	9	
Superbowl 5:30 Host?????	Indoor Exercise 8am Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle League BINGO 7pm	Golf League 7:45 Walking Belinda 10am Eucure 6:30 ***** GA Newsle Submission 5: P.M. goldenacre@gmail.com
15	16	
50th Anniversary Celebration 1-3:30 Jamming with Jim 7:00	Indoor Exercise 8am Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle League BINGO 7pm <i>President's Day</i>	Golf League Country 7:45am Walking with Belinda 6:30 <i>Mar</i>
22	23	
	Indoor Exercise 8am Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle League BINGO 7pm <i>Washington's Birthday</i>	Golf League Country 7:45am Walking Belinda 10am Eucure 6:30pm

Golden Acres R.O.A Events

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7
		Golf Tarpon S 8:30 Indoor Exercise 8am Walking Belinda 10am Twisted Stitchers 1pm Darts 7-9	Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle Team Practice 1pm	
10	11	12	13	14
e Countryway tter s Due sr.o.newsletter m	Wednesday Weekly 9am Aqua Fit Bowling 3:00 Ping Pong 10am Final Swing Dance Lessons 4-5 Bowling 3:00 Shuffle under Stars 7-9pm	Golf Tarpon S 8:30 Indoor Exercise 8am Walking Belinda 10am Twisted Stitchers 1pm \ Valentines Dance Lincoln's Birthday	Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle Team Practice 1pm	 Valentine's Day
17	18	19	20	21
ague rway linda 10am League rdi Gras	Wednesday Weekly 9am Annual Meeting & Election 10am Aquafit 10:30 Bowling 3pm Shuffle under Stars 7-9pm Ash Wednesday	Golf Tarpon S 8:30 Indoor Exercise 8am Walking with Belinda 10am Twisted Stitchers 1pm Darts 7-9	Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle Team Practice 1pm	Pancake Breakfast Progressive Cards 7-9pm
24	25	26	27	28
ague rway g with League	Wednesday Weekly 9am Ping Pong 10am Bowling 3pm Shuffle under Stars 7-9pm	Golf Tarpon S 8:30 Indoor Exercise 8am Walking with Belinda 10am Twisted Stitchers 1pm Darts7-9	Aquafit 10:30 Shuffle Team Practice 1pm	Derby Night 6:00 pm



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With Much Gratitude and Humility

By Susan Bailey #188

Many thanks for all your thoughtfulness, kind and caring words expressed on our Golden Acres Facebook page and in separate emails to me, along with flowers and cheese serving plate! I am so grateful and humbled by your expression of gratitude and appreciation.

"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others." — Cicero



Active-Duty Soldiers to Remember

Please take a moment to offer a prayer of thanks and remembrance to all those who help to protect our Countries. Keep them in your prayers until they return safely to their loved ones.

Adam Coburn (British Army),

-Nephew of Mildred and David Todd, Lot #2.

Damien Fitzpatrick (Tech Sgt. USAF)

-Grandson of Judith Fitzpatrick, Lot #87.

Sean Fitzpatrick (Major US Army)

-Grandson of Judith Fitzpatrick, Lot #87.

Reid Forster (Master Corporal with the 4th Royal Canadian Regiment)

-Son of Dave Forster & Colleen Collins Lot#128

Tim Joy, US Army Special Forces Green Berets, Fort Bragg, NC

-Nephew of Jack Terry, Lot #141.

Daniel Jones (US Navy)

-Grandson of Carol Diniz, Lot #25.

Matthew Jones (US Navy)

-Grandson of Carol Diniz, Lot #25.

Brian Karhoff (US Army LTC)

-Son of Nancy Karhoff, Lot #67.

Colleen Terry, US Navy, Petty Officer 3rd class, Naples, Italy

-Daughter of Jack Terry, Lot #141.

Joshua Ryan Torres Air Force National Guard Staff Sargent (EOD unit) deployed

-Son of Susan Franco, Lot #17

Please send updates to Chris Rainsforth Lot 215 to goldenacresr.o.newsletter@gmail.com



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Tech 101 - 5 Rules to Keep You Safe on Electronic Devices

Chris Rainsforth Unit 215

I really believe in keeping it simple. I have an 82 year old Sister-in-law. She is alone. I decided that during Covid I would get her online so that I could do a “wellness” check-in with her every day. I was a 7 hour drive away so this became her lifeline. We purchased her a phone and tablet exactly the same as mine. I will admit that I am an Android Techie, and a Windows PC user. She came up for a 2 week visit and my training began. Please note**** I am too busy to offer Tech support.****. These are the very simple rules that I instilled in her. She was a reluctant scared woman who was successfully converted to a successful Tech Connected user.



Hard and Fast Rules to live by if you don't want to become a victim of scams on the internet.

1. If you do not know the phone number calling. Do Not Answer. Let it go to messages.
2. If you get an email from someone you are not expecting- Delete it.
3. Never click on a link that you do not know or if you are not expecting someone to share a link.
4. With AI coming into the world, know that it is not going away. To ensure that you do not have an AI voice that has been copied, make sure that you and your family have set up a code word that you only share with them. Seniors are getting caught by AI Many are convinced is a loved grandchild.... The code word will confirm that this is NOT the person you think it is.
5. This one is common sense and it should be one that everyone follows. It is simple. If it sounds too good to be true chances are it is too good to be true. Anyone that offers a chance to make a quick buck means “Give your head a shake” It is a scam, it is too good to be true. If you're making a lot of money and having to convince others that they too can make money (They only have to get 10 more people to buy into the “project” then it is a pyramid scheme that means the only person making money is the guy at the top.





From Today's Post

Submitted by Chris Rainsforth #215

I have messaged the Facebook page and told them that I am sharing this article.

This article was copied from this Web page

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1AURhCRqiy/>

This Page is titled "Today's Post"

In these days of Ai it is nice to see a post that shares something so human. It touched my heart and it is a story everyone can or will some day relate to. In this world of negativity it is nice to see something that makes you feel empathy. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did. Chris



At 81, Sam Elliott couldn't climb out of a swimming pool—and what he said next brought millions to tears.

In a recent episode of *Landman*, the iconic actor delivered one of television's most unflinching reflections on aging. Playing T.L., an 82-year-old former oil worker and distant father, Elliott's character finds himself stuck in a pool, his knees and hips no longer strong enough to lift him out. His son Tommy, played by Billy Bob Thornton, has to step in and help.

What followed went far beyond performance. It felt like lived truth.

Sitting beside the pool with his son, T.L. speaks about another resident at the facility—a man who laughs endlessly, yet whose inner world remains unreachable. "It's a curse that my mind still works," T.L. says through tears. "I sit here fully aware of every way my body is breaking down. I'm fading while my eyes still see it all."

When Tommy suggests physical therapy, the reply is devastatingly plain: "You don't get it. This body is worn through."

The scene captured something television rarely lingers on—the quiet sorrow of losing physical independence while the mind remains clear enough to register every loss. For Elliott, the emotion wasn't manufactured. He later admitted he spent much of the season overwhelmed with feeling, explaining that with Taylor Sheridan's writing, the emotion has to come honestly.

The moment ends with something small but profound: T.L. and Tommy share their first hug, a simple gesture that signals long-delayed reconciliation between father and son.

...continued on page 31



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Across a career spanning more than five decades, Elliott has embodied toughness in films like *Tombstone*, *Road House*, and *A Star Is Born*. Here, though, he revealed a different kind of strength—the courage to be vulnerable when physical power fades.

The scene struck such a chord because it reflects something universal: watching our bodies slow down, witnessing it happen to our parents, or quietly fearing it for ourselves. Elliott wasn't chasing drama; he was letting the truth rise naturally from the moment.

For anyone who has helped a parent stand up, watched a loved one struggle with once-simple tasks, or felt their own body begin to push back, the scene holds up a painful mirror: we are temporary, and our bodies don't last forever.

Yet it also offers something gentler—connection, understanding, and the grace of being seen as we are. Sometimes the strongest thing we can do is admit we need help.



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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

ANNUAL RANCHERO VILLAGE CARPORT SALE. Ranchero Village, 7100 Ulmerton Road, Largo, will be hosting their annual carport sale on Saturday, February 7, 2026 from 8 AM to 8 PM. A wide variety of items will be for sale throughout the park!

Embassy Mobile Park, Inc. Rummage Sale, Saturday, February 7th, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the clubhouse on 4th Street. 16416 US Highway 19 N., Clearwater - Largo area. Off East Bay just West of Tri-City Plaza; come in by Wendy's onto Pine Forest Drive.

Clearwater Cascade park-wide yard sale. Saturday, February 21, 8:00am - 2:00pm. 9790 66th Street N, Pinellas Park

Blue Jay Estates - Annual Community Rummage Sale. Friday and Saturday, February 27 and 28, 2026. 8am - 1pm. Bake Sale and Lunch available both days. In clubhouse and deck. 2755 Curlew Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34684

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Rummage Sale 2/28, Westwind MHP 1&2. 3301 Alt 19 Dunedin, 8-1

Community Flea Market, 2000 East Bay Drive, Largo. Sat. Feb 28. 8 to 12. Bikes, Furniture, Small Appliances, Golf & Household Items, Apparel, Baked Goods

DORAL VILLAGE YARD SALE BAZAAR, Saturday, February 28th, 8am-1pm, 29250 US Hwy 19 N, Clearwater. Furniture, Clothing, Linens, Books, Electronics, Glassware, Jewelry, Kitchen Items, Baked Goods, Lunch, and Great Raffles and Prizes!



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-Monthly Media Staff



EVENTS & PROGRAMS

March Events

White Elephant/Bake Sale. Saturday March 7, 2026 8:00AM - 1:00PM. Lake Highlander Park: 1500 County Road #1, Dunedin, FL. Small appliances, furniture, lamps, linens, jewelry, household appliances, tools, outdoor furniture, miscellaneous items, baked goods, snack bar

Palm Hill Country Club Annual Bazaar, Saturday March 7th. 8am - 1pm. 1800 Seminole Blvd. Largo

Rummage Sale, Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater, 2470 Nursery Rd, Clearwater, Saturday March 7, 8am-2pm. Kitchen ware, home decor, books, clothing/accessories, linens and more

Crafters Wanted March 21st at Palm Hill Country Club. 401 8th Ave, Largo, 8am - 1pm. Contact Tom Sagitas at 727-315-4369. \$20 per table.

Paradise Island Annual Flea Market, March 28th 9am-2pm. 1001 Starkey Rd. Largo. 8am early entrance \$1.00. Large selection of home goods, tools, furniture, linens, clothes, bake sale and more. Follow signs for Clubhouse.

MARCH AD DEADLINE - FEBRUARY 10, 2026

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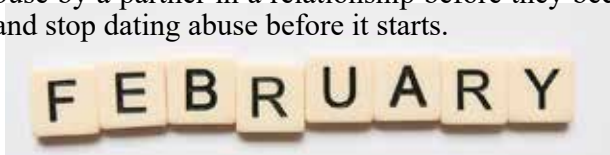
Monthly

African American History Month. An annual observance to recognize and commemorate African American culture, African American History Month (or Black History Month) is celebrated annually in the United States and Canada in February, and in the United Kingdom in October.

Dog Training Education Month. Every day of the month, perform one training activity with your dog: jumping, herding, racing, etc. By the end of the month, you'll notice an improvement in your dog's temperament, and you'll share a closer bond.

National Haiku Writing Month. Write one haiku a day throughout February—the shortest month for the world's shortest genre of poetry. Don't think writing a good haiku is easy, though. As French philosopher and literary theorist Roland Barthes once observed, "Haiku has this rather fantasmagorical property: That we always suppose we ourselves can write such things easily."

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. A national effort to raise awareness about abuse in teen and 20-something relationships and promote programs that prevent it. One in three teens in the United States will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse by a partner in a relationship before they become adults. Spread awareness, and stop dating abuse before it starts.



Weekly

Burn Awareness Week, Feb. 1-7. Observed the first full week in February, Burn Awareness Week is intended to provide an opportunity for burn, fire, and life safety educators to share the message of burn awareness and prevention in communities around the nation.

National School Counseling Week, Feb. 1-5. This year's theme, "School Counseling: Helping Students Realize Their Potential," will focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors and highlight the tremendous impact they can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

Children of Alcoholics Week, Feb. 8-14. A campaign led by the National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACOA) to raise awareness of children affected by parental alcohol problems. Children of Alcoholics Week is celebrated internationally each year during the week in which Valentine's Day falls.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week, Feb. 23-27. Raise awareness and identify solutions to invasive species issues at local, state, tribal, regional, international, and national levels. Participating organizations include the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Environmental Law Institute, and the Nature Conservancy.



Meeting of minds

The famous movie actor/director Charlie Chaplin once met the world-renowned physicist Albert Einstein at a public event. According to the Storypick website, Einstein told the comedian: “What I most admire about your art is your universality. You don’t say a word, yet the world understands you.”

To which Chaplin replied, “True. But your glory is even greater. The whole world admires you, even though they don’t understand a word of what you say.”

Mistaken identity

Even Queen Elizabeth II sometimes goes unrecognized. A story from the Hello magazine website tells of a time when the queen’s car drove up to the Royal Windsor Horse Show in 1991. A guard walked up and told her, “Sorry, love, you can’t come in without a sticker.”

Unfazed, her majesty answered, “I think if you check, I will be allowed to come in.”

He did, and she was. The guard admitted later that he’d thought the queen was just “some old dear” who was lost.

Penalty box

Gordie Howe was one of the greatest hockey players of all time. One night his team, the Detroit Red Wings, was playing the Toronto Maple Leafs at Maple Leaf Gardens. Howe believed one referee was favoring the home team, so he skated over and asked, “Hey, refer, what would you do if I called you a homer?” (a sports official who makes obvious calls for the home team.)

“I’d have to give you two minutes in the penalty box,” the ref replied.

“What would you do if I only thought you were a homer?”

“I couldn’t do anything. Your thoughts are your own.”

“Good, because I think you’re a ----ing homer!”

And yes, Howe got two minutes in the penalty box.



A little praise

As a speechwriter for presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, Peggy Noonan introduced such phrases as “a thousand points of light” into the vernacular. But she derived her greatest personal satisfaction from a simple note of praise.

As recounted in her book, *What I Saw at the Revolution* (Ivy Books), four months into her job as Reagan’s speechwriter, Noonan had yet to meet the boss. Then he returned the draft of one of her speeches bearing the hand-scrawled words “Very Good.”

Noonan was overjoyed—so overjoyed that she cut out the note, taped it to her blouse, and walked the halls beaming with the pride of a schoolgirl who’d suddenly discovered she was teacher’s pet.

Handling the press

Rock star David Bowie knew how to charm reporters. According to the Digital Spy website, when a magazine ran a series on some of the journalists who’d interviewed him over the years, they discovered that he’d played the same trick on them over and over again:

Bowie would schedule a 45-minute interview. When his aide came in to show the reporter out, he’d say, “Look, I know we’re on a schedule, but we’re having such fun here, could we do an extra 15 minutes?” Every journalist felt flattered by the attention, which usually resulted in a positive review of whatever album Bowie was publicizing. Only years later did they realize that he’d scheduled them for a full hour all along.

Quotes:

We are storytelling animals and cannot bear to acknowledge the ordinariness of our daily lives.
—Stephen Jay Gould

Storytelling reveals meaning without committing the error of defining it.
—Hannah Arendt

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