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February • 2026

Issue 12
49th Year

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BAY RANCH MOBILE VILLAGE Park Management

The Clubhouse is open, and many activities are up and running. Status of activities will change as snowbirds return. Check the bulletin board at the clubhouse for updates on activities.

Bay Ranch Village LLC, 7349 Ulmerton, Largo, FL 33771

Manager.....Carol Alvey
 MaintenanceWayne Perkins
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 Office OpenMonday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon & 1:00-3:00 p.m
 Office Closed.....Tuesday & Thursday

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Secretary:	Kathy Trombini	Coach 259	727-831-5144
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Bay Ranch Review

Cathy Griffin.....	Editor	Coach 244.....	315-783-7701	cat846@yahoo.com
Cindy Devinney.....	Members	Coach 1342	550-7377	
Jeanne Hunter.....		Coach 1314.....	432-9792	
Paige Andrews.....	Delivery	Coach 113	543-9871	

Wanted one-time or monthly articles. Contact Cathy Griifin.

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Ambulance Fund,

Cathy Griffin Coach 244 315-783-7701

134 Lees Jack 2/17/26

I am usually down at the clubhouse on Monday mornings at 8:30 until meetings are over. If that is easier for you to catch me and sign up or renew.

The Ambulance Fund is open to all residents for \$2.50 per person per year. Payment qualifies members for 1 emergency transport per person per year. The fund

pays the balance of the bill, up to \$75, after Medicare and insurance. Membership period is stated on your card. There are no grace days.



THANK YOU

I recently had the privilege of visiting one of Bay Ranch Legends: Jerry Olson.

Thise of you who don't know Jerry, let me give you a little background. Jerry is 93 years young. He's married to his beautiful bride of 20 years Carol. The Thank You I want to give him is for his service. Jerry was one of the lone survivors of his Infantry in the Battle of Pork Chop Hill. This took place in Korea in 1953.

Here is part of his story:

Jerry was drafted. But he was never trained for combat! He was never even on a rifle range. He thought he was training to ne a signal man who climbed poles. His first week consisted of how to stay down in the mud, to avoid being seen or shot. His 2nd week. He was taught to use a bayonet and kill someone with it. His 3rd week was then for his signal training. It was during this time they asked for 12 volunteers, nobody did, so they picked 12 men out and sent them to a signal core. One group was for a 9-month course, the other for a 7-week course. 18 days later they were thrown in together. 8 were called off and were being sent to Okinawa and the other were being shipped off to Korea. Then plans changed and they were all shipped to Korea. They went in on low tide, mud was knee deep and about 8 feet of water. Once on land they were sent by train to Seoul, Korea, There Jerry was issued a weapon, (Sadly I can't read my notes for what it was). Jerry had never shot any weapon of any kind before, so fortunately an officer took him aside and taught him how to shoot.

Next, they thought they were going to go out and support the battle at Ole Baldy, on the way a mortar shell went off, Jerry jumped out of the jeep and stayed in the culvert all day long. At this point Jerry was reported missing.. He finally was reunited with his group.

Then on April 16, 1953, at approximately 5:30-6:30 it was like all **** broke loose. There was Chinese everywhere and they were under attack from them. Jerry was hit with shrapnel, but fortunately his flight jacket was lined and saved him from serious injury. However, when it all ended and he could check out his body, it was black and blue from his shoulder to waist.



Jerry finally was forced to kill, and it tore him up as a Christian he felt he had just committed murder,

Jerry survived 4 days on Pork Chop Hill by avoiding capture, killing when he must, just to survive. He used dead men's ammo and rations just to survive. Killing when he had to. He had to survive to get home to his wife, with a baby on the way. When he was found, he didn't even realize he had a cut on his hand from a battle with a bayonet. Bayonet man lost, Jerry won.

In those 4 days 415 men were lost. As the only survivor Jerry was taken to the Officer and they let him take a shower in Officers' quarters which had warm water and provided him with new clothes as his were all blood.

It took 9 days to get back to his outfit.

Jerry now suffers from PTSD and for 50 years has slept with a rifle under his bed.

He was told by doctors that after what he went through he was 100% dis-abled. Jerry didn't think so.

When he finally got back home, he joined the fire Department for a while.

I'm sure there is allot more I missed, as my notes are a mess because I was so taken in by his story.

On behalf of myself and all the other Residents here: Thank You Jerry and all of our other Veterans living here. We most likely wouldn't be here if you all were not defending us.

THANK YOU.

Note: You can read more about Jerry and Pork Chop Hill on Wikipedia.



Manager's Moment

Carol Alvey

All Bay Ranch rent amounts have increased by \$75, starting with your January rent. Please make sure you submit the correct amount, write the amount correctly, and the "words" on the legal line are correct. In addition, all checks must be written in blue or black ink, or they will be returned to you. Your rent is considered late if the office does not receive a valid form of payment by the close of business on the 5th of the month (unless you have made other arrangements with the Office). A reminder that late fees are \$50 after the 5th of the month, NOT prorated by how many days you are late. Additionally, the bank returned check fee is \$30 and an administrative fee of \$12.50 is charged for handling. Simply put, if you pay late or issue an improper check, it will cost you an additional \$65. I am happy to work with anyone who has a legitimate reason for being late; "legitimate" does not include "I am going on vacation and need to have the extra money in case I need it"! Or "I had to pay my son's rent, so he didn't get evicted." And yes, I hear this all the time. Also, if you have a 3rd person approved to live in your mobile, the monthly fee has increased to an additional \$50 per person. Within the last 2 months, every resident should have received a letter about any repairs that

...continued on page 6



were needed to bring their yard and mobile home up to Park standards; some people received letters thanking them for keeping their mobile and lot in good condition (We called them “Happy Letters”). Kat has been the one checking the mobiles and lots, then sending out the letters. She then forwards me any pictures she may have taken to substantiate items that needed attention. She will be doing follow-ups to see if the needed repairs have been made. Rules 21 and 39 give Park Management the right to be on your lot for this purpose.

Here is a large problem we have encountered... residents seem to think these are “suggestions” and that the time frame for repairs does not apply to them. WRONG! You can come see me or send an email and explain why you may need more time, and it will be at my discretion whether or not you are given additional time. Things not acceptable are we need to put money inside first; we may do it in the spring; we are ok with the way things are; I’m too old to do the work (then you hire someone); it’s been this way forever (times change, Bay Ranch was starting to look like a trailer park instead of a mobile home community); etc.

Park Rule 18. TRASH/GARBAGE, items B, C, and D, give guidance on putting garbage out to the road. I cannot stress enough about garbage being put out on a Saturday, or other wrong time. No one wants to look at your trash, and it leaves a bad impression on guests and prospective new tenants who drive through the park. Understanding that a lot of residents have no golfcart, truck or other way to get the large amount of brush, limbs, etc. to the dumpsters after they received cleanup letters the letters. If you put garbage out early, or don’t properly prepare your limbs, etc. Your garbage will not be picked up AT ALL. It will be your problem getting it to the dumpsters.

Even though park rules allow for eviction of residents who continually break the rules (and don’t follow up on the repairs indicated in the letters), it is not our intent. I would rather with you to find a solution.....there are still a few residents who are physically able (and young enough) to do some of the required work at a reasonable price. There are businesses that advertise power washing for just under \$100 in the News and Views. Park rules require mobile homes to be washed annually, but if at any time mold or mildew becomes visible, you are required to wash it again. Weather affects mold and mildew, and the record setting high temperatures and humidity that we had this summer caused many residents to wash their mobiles several times. Mold is a living organism that grows and spreads when it has the right conditions, such as damp, warm and humid environments. If you see signs of mold starting, you should remove it immediately, so it doesn't become a bigger issue. Washing of mobile homes is not subject to Pinellas County water restrictions.

We are still under water restrictions, (2 days a week, Thursday and Sunday) but NOT permitted between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Also, park rules allow car washing only twice a week (a week is defined as Sunday through Saturday).

I apologize for the length of this article regarding mobile home lot and home maintenance, but, like most of you, I do not want to live in a “trailer park” and I expect all residents to take some pride in their home and yard.

...continued on page 8

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Another thing: people are letting their dogs run loose! This is a big NO NO! The mailman has almost been bitten and another person's dog got attacked. This is grounds for eviction, or you will have to get rid of the dog. We both know who you are, don't let this happen again. This year we are encouraging homeowners to start cleaning and beautify their yards in an effort to clean up the park. We chode one person to acknowledge on each side of the park who keeps their yard beautiful. This month I would like to acknowledge Lot # 211 Mike and Pat Verzoni and Lot # 1358 Mack Crawford and Dustin Beaver. We Appreciate and thank you for taking pride in your home and yard.



JUST SAYIN'

Jeanne Hunter

Jeanne is on a 2-month sabbatical to come up with more great stories to entertain you readers. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Personally, can't wait for he to come back as she always makes me smile when I read her words.

In honor of Jeanne, we must share a joke,

There was a man who worked for the Post Office whose job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses. One day, a letter came addressed in a shaky handwriting to God with no address. He thought he should open it to see what it was about. The letter read: "Dear God, I am an 83-year-old widow, living on a very small pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension check. Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with. I have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope. Can you please help me? Sincerely, Edna" The postal worker was touched. He showed the letter to all the other workers. Each one dug into his or her wallet and came up with a few dollars. By the time he made the rounds, he had collected \$96, which they put into an envelope and sent to the woman. The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends. Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God. All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened. It read: "Dear God, How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me? Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift. "By the way, there was \$4 missing. I think it must have been those bastards at the Post Office!" 🤔





Resident Club News

February is starting look just as busy as January was. We will start out on the 7th with our monthly breakfast. Serving runs from 8:30-10:00. We will be serving the usual: eggs, sausage, pancakes, French toast and home fries, juice and coffee. This is all you can eat, so come really hungry. \$8.00 Wow! What a deal. (I'm hearing rumors that there may be some ham also. You'll just have to come and check that out for yourself).

On the 11th is the annual Memorial for all of our friends we lost last year. Starts at 7:00PM.

On the 14th, there will be a party/dance. Bet you think it's for Valentines Day. Nope, we are celebrating Mardi Gras. So, get your festival outfits ready as there will be a prize for best looking. Want to celebrate by decorating your own table? If we can get enough, we will award a prize for that also. We will have a DJ playing some great tunes and your request also a few appetizers for you to enjoy also. Word is cake is also being made by one of our great Residents.

(Thank you Cindy D.) See you at 7 music and fun until 10. Cost is \$10.00pp BYOB

Ending the month is the Variety Show at 7PM on the 28th. This is one show you really don't want to miss. There are so many talented performers here at the Ranch, you just have to see it to believe it. Have an act, song, reading, dance or any other talent you would like to share? Contact Carol Olson or sign up at the clubhouse. Just a note: If you need music for your performance there is a meeting after breakfast on the 7th at 10:00, so Adam has time to prepare for the show.

Some background on Mardi Gras

Mardi Gras, French for "Fat Tuesday," is a festive celebration of feasting and revelry on the day before the Christian Lenten season begins (Ash Wednesday), traditionally a time for indulgence before 40 days of fasting, prayer, and sacrifice leading to Easter, with roots in ancient pagan spring festivals, later incorporated into Christian tradition as Carnival, culminating in parades, costumes, and feasts, especially famous in New Orleans and other Catholic cultures.

The Truth About the Purple, Green, and Gold of Mardi Gras

In 1892, the Rex parade theme "Symbolism of Colors" gave meaning to these colors. Purple Represents Justice. Green Represents Faith. Gold Represents Power.

Ash Emperors

The Ash Emperors are meeting every other Saturday at 1PM at Cozy Cigar, which is located on West Bay in Largo. If interested or have questions, please call Adam Pirhofer at 623-7808 or Dave Andrews at 727-542-6917.



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Bingo

Cindy Devinney 550-7377

We start selling at 5pm. We stop selling at 6pm and Bingo starts at 6:30.
We need more people to come, so we can continue to play through the summer.
So come on down for a night of fun, and who knows, you might even win.
Please no large bills.



Buffalo Bingo

Buffalo Bingo is a form of Bingo, but played with a set of dice, a game card and pennies. It will usually be held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30. Which is the 19th this month. All are welcome. All you need is you and about 50 pennies, we have the cards all ready for you. (We can make change if you are short pennies).

Canasta

We will meet every Tuesday at 1:00. Looking for more players. We will be glad to teach you.



Card Bingo

Adam Pirhofer at 623-7808

This is Bingo where every 4-some (and sometimes 3-somes) deals out a full deck of cards, then discards the card as the caller calls it. Whoever runs out of cards first wins the pot of 1 quarter for each player. It is held on Wednesdays, calling starts at 6:00.



Chorus

Please accept this as your invitation to the Bay Ranch Memorial Service. We honor those residents who have passed in the year 2025. Mark your calendar for Wednesday February 11th at 7 PM at the club house.

A social time will follow the service. We ask that you are able to please bring something for the refreshment table.

Becky Webber - beckywebber61@gmail.com

Chorus Director





Coffee Klutch

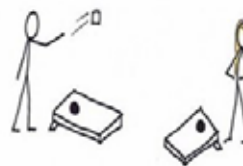
Held at the clubhouse every Monday just before the Residents Club meeting. SO, plan on coming down, have a cup of Joe, a donut, and a great visit with your fellow Ranchers.



CORN HOLE

Bob Hertensteiner

Cornhole is back playing on Tuesday nights. Playing starts at 6:30. But please be there to sign up by 6:15.



CRAFTS

Everyone is welcome and to bring whatever project you are working on. We meet on Fridays at 9:30. So come on down to the clubhouse and join in the friendship and comradery.



Euchre

Come join us Tuesday evening at 6:30. Don't forget to bring your dollar.



Fitness For Life

We are back in the clubhouse. We are doing some chair and modified workouts. Our aim is to keep moving so come join us and do what you can. Let's keep moving together.

We meet on Tuesday and Thursday at 9AM.





HOA

Elections for the HOA will be coming up the first of the year. If you are interested in running for a position on the HOA board, please submit your nomination in writing and include your name, phone number and lot number and give it to



Hoss Collar

Hoss collar is back! We play on Saturdays at 1:00pm. Don't forget your dollar. Open to anyone who wants to have fun. We can teach you how to play if you don't know.

Karaoke

Adam Pirhofer 623-7808

Bring your voice, beverages, and you down and join in the fun and entertainment. As usual subject to change.

If you can sing or not come out and join in the fun, there is no judging here. Want some free entertainment? Come on down to the clubhouse and enjoy the music and cheer on your fellow Rancher.



Koffee Klatch

Come join us at 8:30-9 for coffee and doughnuts or muffins or whatever we can find. Join in the conversation and meet some of your fellow Ranchers.



Ladies Having Fun

Cindy Douglas 260-715-0646

The ladies meet on the last Friday of the month. This month is tentatively scheduled for Country Pizza Inn. Sign up and location will be posted at the clubhouse two weeks prior if different. Please remember to sign up, so an accurate count may be given to the restaurant. Besides a great meal and company, there will be a 50/50 and a door prize. Please come join us for a good time. All are welcome!



Library

Bonnie Bach, Coach 1051

Books in the library are donated by Bay Ranchers.

Come on in and borrow a book or drop off the ones you have read. Please put books in the tote and we will put them back on the shelf. Looking for any large print books. Sorry. No magazines please.

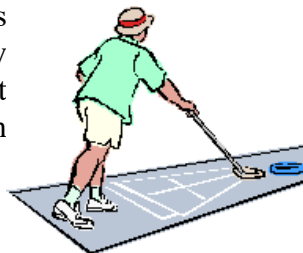


Residents' Club.

Meetings start at 9am right after Koffee Klatch. Want to stay informed and help plan events?? Then join us every Monday. Hope to see you there.

Shuffleboard

Shuffleboard is going to be revamped into shuffle fun. WE ARE NOW MEETING Mondays @ 1:00pm to practice and learn. Anyone who wants to play can come join in and we will divide into teams and play each other here. Don't know how to play and want to learn? Contact Wayne Jones Coach 224 or at 416-813-2493 or Patty Harwood Coach 1395 240-505-5893.



Stein Studs

Adam Pirhofer 623-7808

Stein Studs (and Beer Babes) are a group of folks who enjoy the sampling of Craft Beers from local, as well as everywhere else, brewers.

But we also enjoy craft and other distilled spirits and cocktails.

We are so blessed in the Tampa Bay region to have such diverse and numerous amounts of breweries and distilleries in our area. As well as fine drinking establishments to sample the abundance of liberations.

We normally meet at Willard's Tap House,
12500 Starkey Rd, Largo, FL 33773, on Friday's at 2:00 pm. But if someone would prefer distilled libations, we are happy to make trips for those.

Let me know if you have any suggestions,

Apirhofer@hotmail.com

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

By Cindy Devinney, Coach 1342, 550-7377

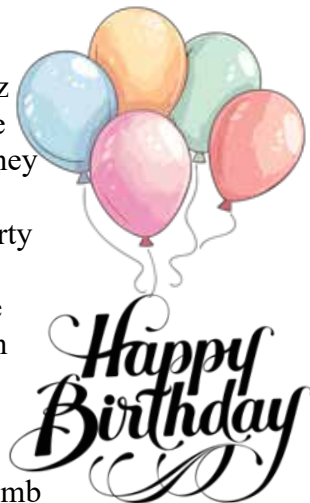
Let Cindy know if there are any corrections or Birthday/Anniversary we miss.

February Birthdays

1. Carol Reabe
Deb Hoesting
2. William Jonassen
Debra Moskalyk
3. Cheryl Chapman
Delores Flores
4. Sherry Faulkner
5. Dominic Pressutti
6. Joseph Gavin
7. Daniel Doherty
Mary Ward
10. William Ayrea
12. Allen Saltzer
13. Drew Johnson
14. Jeff Maxwell
15. Carol Decker



15. Tammy Nantz
Gewn Dombe
16. Cindy Devinney
Gary Boyer
17. Oneida Doherty
Judy Peters
18. Chrystle Ciaie
19. Jamie Shelton
23. Dana Sheher
26. Tom Gardner
Judy Keeler
27. Russel MaComb
Robert Quish
Solmaria Cabrera
28. Cathy Stevens
Kevin O'Connell



February Anniversaries

2. Bob & Pat Kriesel
14. Donald & Patricia Ferguson
19. Frank & Annie Simone
21. Jan & Carol Raabe



HAPPY
Anniversary!

FEBRUARY



Unanswered Questions

I've been around long enough to collect a lot of years... and somehow, even More unanswered questions.

You'd think time would bring clarity. Instead, it brings confusion with better lighting.

For example—who actually let the dogs out? I've had decades to investigate and not a single lead. No suspects. No arrests.

And while we're at it... where is the beef? I've checked every shelf, drawer, and mysterious container in the fridge. Nothing. Just disappointment and expired yogurt.

Also, how exactly do you get to Sesame Street? I've tried asking smart devices, old devices, and my own common sense. All equally unhelpful.

Why doesn't Dora just use GPS? If I can manage it with reading glasses and patience, surely she can.

Why are eggs protected by thin cardboard, but batteries are sealed like classified government documents? Someone clearly made a questionable decision there.

Why does applying mascara require the mouth to be open? Is it biology? Physics? A rule written somewhere we're not allowed to see?

And who thought it was a good idea to make the word “shortened” so long? That feels personal.

Why does lemon juice need artificial flavor, but dish soap proudly uses real lemon? I'm not saying we should cook with soap... but I am asking questions.

Why bother cleaning a needle meant for a final injection? At that point, it feels like checking the weather after the storm.

Why does it cost two cents to give your opinion, but you only get one cent back? Who's pocketing the extra penny? And where are they hiding it?

Why do the alphabet and “Twinkle Twinkle” sound suspiciously alike? And why did you just hum both to confirm? Be honest—I did too.

And Victoria's Secret... after all these years, I still don't know what it is. Possibly the beef. Possibly the penny.

You might think I'm clever, but I'll admit this: none of these thoughts are mine alone. They've been passed around, reshaped, retold, and recycled through generations—like a family heirloom made entirely of confusion.

So here I am, older, wiser, and no closer to the answers. Maybe the secret to life isn't solving the mystery...

Maybe it's laughing at the fact that none of it ever made sense in the first place.

Some travel info in case you are looking for something special to do; All information is through Travel is Fun.





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MARCH 2026

MARCH 4, WED. – “CATS” at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater in Fort Myers, Matinee show

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MARCH 5, THURS. – FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL in Plant City!

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MARCH 7, SAT. – GRANDVIEW CLYDESDALES in Dunnellon,

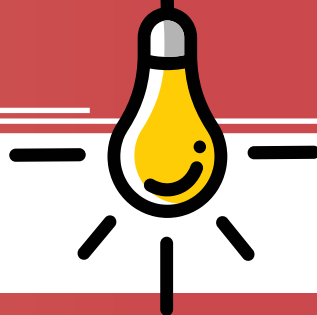
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continued on page 29



Did You Know?

Due to the extra 'r' in the word February, it is considered one of the most misspelt words in the English language. along with words like 'Definitely' and 'Believe'.



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8	9 8:30 Koffee Klatch 9:00 Residents' Club	9:00 Ch 1:00 Ca 6:00 pm 6:30 Eu
15	16 8:30 Koffee Klatch 9:00 Residents' Club President's Day	9:00 Ch 1:00 Ca 6:00 pm 6:30 Eu Ma
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MARCH 17, TUES. – CALYPSO QUEEN ST. PATRICK’S DAY SIGHTSEEING & LUNCHEON CRUISE

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MARCH 21, SAT. – “MISS SAIGON”

At Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater, Matinee Show in Hudson. This matinee show includes a delicious buffet lunch and a served dessert! “From the creators of Les Misérables comes the breathtaking musical Miss Saigon, a powerful tales of love and Published: 12/29/2025 sacrifice set during the Vietnam War. Winner of three Tony Awards, this critically acclaimed production has captivated audiences worldwide with its sweeping score, spectacular visuals, and emotionally charged story. Step into a powerful tale of love, loss, and resilience set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War as you follow the journey of Kim, a young Vietnamese woman, and Chris, an American soldier, navigating the turmoil of war and the depths of human connection. Featuring iconic songs like “The Last Night of the World” and “Sun and Moon,” this is a theatrical experience that will leave you spellbound. Don’t miss this epic story of hop and the human spirit.”...\$139

MARCH 29, SUN.- ALOHA LUAU

You’ll step into an authentic Hawaiian celebration in the heart of Orlando. You’re “transported” to the islands with vibrant décor, warm hospitality, and an atmosphere filled with the spirit of Aloha. Comfort & convenience are part of the experience as you enjoy the evening inside a climate-controlled ballroom, where an island-style buffet dinner is presented before the Luau Show. During the show, Pineapple Upside Down cake is served to complete the meal. Cash bar available...\$159

MARCH 29, SUN. – CAPONE’S Dinner Show

Our evening begins with a visit to the 4 Deuces Lounge for a pre-dinner refreshment. Then, on to dinner and a 1931 Chicago-themed entertainment extravaganza! “Al’s a generous guy...he treats his guests to delicious food & drinks nightly! Mama Capone prepares a great selection of Italian and American favorites served by our awesome gang of wait staff. Enjoy an appetizer, salad, entrée and dessert, and of course, unlimited drinks!”...\$169



FEBRUARY



FLORIDA CODE:

If you're a snowbird or a non-working retiree, you absolutely cannot drive between the hours of 6 AM and 10 AM and 4 PM and 7 PM. This is considered to be rush hour and you're not in any rush.

Flip flops, tank tops and baggy shorts are also known as business casual.

Tolls are a fact of life down here, the state has to make money so that's that!

I-275 will always be under construction... that's the law, there is nothing anyone can do about it!

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If you travel more than 5-10 miles on any road in any part of Florida without seeing an orange Bob's Barricades, you're lost.

If you miss your exit on I-75, I-4 or I-275, it's perfectly acceptable to back up or stop on the highway while making up your (our) mind. Not!

Every street in Florida has both a name and a number (i.e. Adamo = 60th), this is just for the heck of it and for the pleasure we get from the reaction of visitors when we give them directions.

Once the light turns green only 3 cars can go through the intersection, eight more go through on yellow, and 4 more on red.

Use your blinker, but not a mile ahead of time!

When you're turning off of the main road, keep going! Don't stop on the roadway and then turn. Keep the momentum going!

HOW WOMEN SHOWER (ACCORDING TO REAL LIFE 😊)

Step 1: Sort clothes into 47 different laundry categories like you're running a tiny textile factory.

Step 2: Walk to the bathroom in a robe thicker than a winter blanket. If husband appears — instant ninja-style body coverage.

Step 3: Stare at your reflection... make a silent promise to start sit-ups "tomorrow."

Step 4: Enter shower with a full cleaning arsenal: washcloth, loofah, backup loofah, exfoliator, and that mysterious stone for heels.

Step 5: Shampoo hair with something that sounds like a fruit salad mixed with vitamins.

Step 6: Shampoo AGAIN — because why trust the first time?

Step 7: Condition hair with something that smells like a whole tropical vacation.

Step 8: Scrub face until it tingles, sparkles, or begs for mercy.

Step 9: Shave everything. Rinse everything. Clean everything.



Step 10: Turn off water. Squeegee the walls like you're closing the spa.
Step 11: Step out, wrap yourself in a towel the size of a king-size sheet.
Step 12: Pass husband — instantly pull robe tighter.
Mission complete.

HOW MEN SHOWER (ALSO REAL LIFE 🤪)

Step 1: Drop clothes on the floor. Anywhere.
Step 2: March naked to the bathroom like a Viking. If wife appears, wiggle proudly and make sound effects.
Step 3: Flex in the mirror for no reason. Scratch butt. Nod approvingly.
Step 4: Jump into shower.
Step 5: Wash armpits. Wash face.
Step 6: Focus 98% of cleaning effort on “the important zone.”
Step 7: Blow nose in hands — let water handle the rest.
Step 8: Fart. Laugh at the echo.
Step 9: Make a shampoo mohawk because you’re basically still twelve.
Step 10: Pee.
Step 11: Rinse off, step out, barely touch towel to skin.
Step 12: Leave curtain open, floor soaked, lights on, fan on.
Step 13: Walk past wife — remove towel for encore performance.
Step 14: Toss wet towel onto bed like it’s someone else’s problem.
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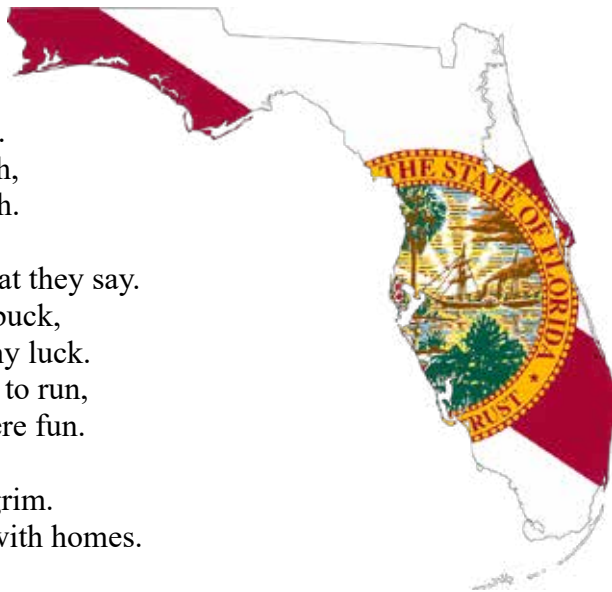


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Old Florida Gone

The sunshine state where I was raised,
I love it here, but it sure has changed.
It's nothing like it used to be,
if you're from around here it's not hard to see.
It's more than Disney and more than the beach,
The good old Florida seems so far out of reach.
Eight hundred people move here every day,
There's plenty to go around, at least that's what they say.
That old oak hammock where I shot my first buck,
It's been taken for the phosphate; that's just my luck.
Those old orange groves me and the boys use to run,
They're all concrete now but the old times were fun.
That old lake where we'd fish and swim,
It's all been sprayed and it's looking kind of grim.
They keep pushing up pines to replace them with homes.
They won't stop until it's all gone.
They keep stacking up condos on concrete walls,
Cutting down trees for big shopping malls. Another ranch sold that's what I heard today,
Another HOA is coming that's what they say.
She used to be salt creek and white sandy beach,
Now it's all concrete canals where all the sewer leaks.
The water was once clear, the fish kept us fed.
But now every year the tide turns red,
They aren't going to stop until it's all dead.
Man, I sure wish to save this old State,
but I'm all but certain it's almost too late.
But I'll keep on dreaming of the good old times,
When this state was still wild and majority was pines.
Oh, how I wish they'd leave this old Florida alone,
but they aren't going to wake up until it's all gone.





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.



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Pinellas County

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Help out friends when they're sick

A friend is sick. Sending a get-well card is nice, but for a serious illness, it's not enough. What can you do to really help? Try some of these thoughtful gestures:

- Text when you're at the store: "Can I pick up anything for you?"
- Plan a lunch date.
- Offer to run their errands.
- Help out around the house, cleaning up or doing laundry.
- Offer to drive to doctors' appointments, the store, or anywhere else they need to go.

Get up and work out

The alarm rings. Do you leap out of bed to head for the gym? Or hit snooze and tell yourself you'll work out tomorrow? Motivating yourself to get up and start exercising can be tough. If you give in to temptation to skip the health club more than you'd like, try these tips to get moving:

- Watch what you eat before bedtime. A heavy snack right before you hit the mattress will make you feel lethargic in the morning. Stick to fruit, vegetables, and lean, protein-rich foods, and don't eat anything for at least 90 minutes before you go to bed.
- Go to bed early. You'll wake up feeling refreshed and ready to work out if you get enough sleep—seven to eight hours. Limit your TV, computer, and cellphone use before bedtime so you can get to sleep easier.
- Look forward to something. Don't think of exercise as drudgery. Find something you enjoy about it so you wake up excited about hitting the gym, or give yourself a reward for working out once you're finished.
- Find a workout buddy. Exercising alone can be boring. Ask around your neighborhood, workplace, or health club and find someone who works out on the same schedule you do. When you know you've got someone waiting for you, you'll be more motivated to show up.

Quotes:

Health is the natural condition. When sickness occurs, it is a sign that nature has gone off course because of a physical or mental imbalance.

—Jostein Gaarder

Health is more than the absence of disease. Health is about jobs and employment, education, the environment, and all of those things that go into making us healthy.

—Joycelyn Elders

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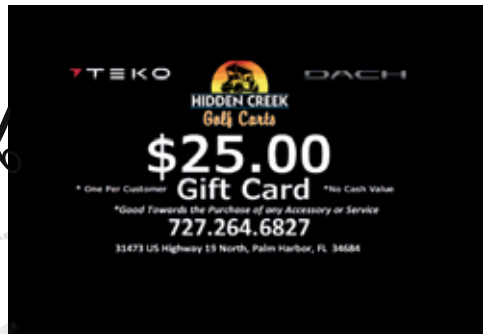
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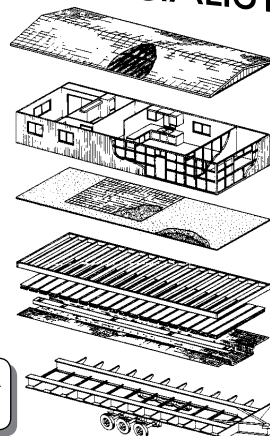
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ARTICLES FOR SALE

For Sale: 1929 Model A Roadster Original. 727-588-0950 C: 727-560-6140

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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!



ATTENTION RESIDENTS!

Did you know this Emporium/ Classified listing reaches over 21,500 homes in Pinellas County? It goes into 60 community newsletters (just like this one) from Dunedin to St. Petersburg. This is a great market to sell items, advertise your next event, try and get help for a function, and many other things. Remember to think about this the next time you're planning something.

-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

Advertise EVENTS, BUY, SELL, TRADE ITEMS, by sending copy & check to Monthly Media at 220 Bahama St, Venice, FL 34285. Ads over 10 words must be accompanied by \$.80 per extra word or publisher will edit. Each new word indicated by a space, numbers included. No mobile home sales, no professional products or services. Envelope must be postmarked by 10th of the month to meet deadline. **SORRY: No ads accepted by phone or email.**

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Bill Dixon..... \$10 Air Masters of Pinellas
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Dorothy Clegg..... \$5 Battleline Termite Pest Control
Evelyn Ruppel..... \$10 Battleline Termite Pest Control
Floyd Morin \$10 Bay Area Aluminum Services
Philip Willix \$10 Boss Electric
Sharon Fusner \$10 Boss Electric
Fran Gillette \$5 Buggin Out Termite
John Anderson..... \$10 Buggin Out Termite
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Steven Dehler..... \$10 Ron Wyngarden Mobile Wash
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Joyce Billis..... \$5 Air Masters of Pinellas

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O	S	L	E	B	W	F	C	I	S	U	M	U
L	N	A	K	D	A	O	I	I	R	Z	Z	O
O	A	I	E	C	I	G	N	E	U	Z	L	I
R	R	C	D	B	M	U	G	D	L	Y	E	C
F	E	O	I	A	S	N	M	A	E	D	V	I
U	P	S	S	T	I	P	S	E	G	R	A	P
L	O	T	T	S	C	L	T	L	S	E	R	S
Z	E	S	U	M	H	A	O	H	L	A	T	U
R	T	N	O	A	V	N	R	J	G	A	E	S
N	N	W	O	L	B	E	Y	P	J	I	B	L
Y	P	E	E	L	S	E	Z	A	L	B	F	P
G	R	O	U	N	D	E	L	F	F	A	R	E

baggage
bats
balls
blaze
blown
colorful
dekes

field
fight
fuzzy
ground
lease
master
medium

music
newt
opera
outside
parges
plane
poet

practical
raffle
service
singer
sinus
sleepy
small

snare
social
story
sunny
suspicious
travel
wonder



Emergency & Help Numbers

EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

NON-EMERGENCIES

Largo Police Department	587-6730
Florida Highway Patrol.....	464-7777
Largo Fire Department (Admin. Off.)	587-6714
Pinellas County Sheriff’s Department	582-6200

UTILITIES

Duke Customer Service	727-443-2641
Power Outages	727-443-2641
Verizon Inc. Billing Inquiries.....	1-800-837-4966
Customer Service & Order Requests	1-800-837-4966
Repairs (24 hours).....	1-800-837-4966
Directory Assistance (3 free per mo.)	411

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Auto Tags (13025 Starkey Road).....	464-7777
Driver’s License (13025 Starkey Rd.)	464-7777
Largo City Hall	587-6700
Largo Post Office (50-8th Ave. S.W.).....	727-584-0301
Largo Public Library (120 Central Park Dr	587-6715
Senior Citizen Service’s.....	727-576-1533
Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce.....	584-2321
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213
VA Regional Office Benefits Information & Assistance	727-464-8400

HOSPITALS

Bay Pines Veterans Administration Hospital	398-6661
10,000 Bay Pines Blvd., St. Petersburg 33708	
Largo Medical Center	588-5200
201 – 14th Street S.W., Largo 33770	
Largo Medical Center – Indian Rocks	581-9474 2025
Indian Rocks Road, Largo 33774	
Morton Plant Hospital.....	462-7000 300
Pinellas Street, Clearwater 33756	
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