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# SERENDIPITY

• S E N T I N E L •

N

**April • 2021**

**Issue 2  
45<sup>th</sup> Year**

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## Serendipity Homeowners Association - 2021

President	Pat Lucksinger	518-573-0968
Vice President	Jerry Zielinski	727-242-7189 727-225-3657 - cell
Treasurer	Cindy Sharpe	727-386-5192 336-266-6304 - cell
Secretary	Terry Morlock	727-474-7873
Social Director	Betty Buehrle	330-232-6345
Director	Marion Robertson	727-238-8923 214-537-9423 - cell
Director	Doris Isabelle	603-279-8888
Director	Sue Shumyhora	203-615-1043 - cell
Director	Dawn Roberts	518-312-8713

\*\*\*As activities slowly re-open here in Serendipity, The Monthly Media calendar may not always be correct. The HOA is making changes as needed. If you have questions please call the chairperson of your group, watch the bulletin boards, the Serendipity Homeowners Facebook page, and the electronic sign at our entrance for updates. Please all stay healthy!  
*Nanci, Editor*

## HOA President's UPDATES

*Pat Lucksinger, HOA President, 518-573-0968*

### Notes from the monthly meeting with ELS March 2021:

- Golf carts must be driven by licensed drivers only and all rules followed. You must have lights to use your golf cart after dark.
- A reminder that your trash is to be in a lidded container. NO GARBAGE BAGS!!!
- Golf carts cannot be parked on the grass. It might be time to get a golf cart pad. Remember to get approval from management.
- Please DO NOT drop off anything in the library. At this time, no donations can be accommodated.
- There is trash just randomly dropped around the park. Wrappers, beer cans, soda bottles and other miscellaneous items. Let's try to make Serendipity look it's best.
- You are not supposed to walk on anyone's lot. Shortcutting through neighbors lots is prohibited.
- Annual stickers must be displayed on your coach and old stickers removed. The Health Dept. inspector will report to DMV and you will be cited and fined.

*...continued on page 5*

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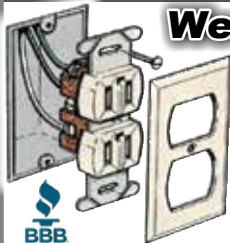
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- There will be a HOA meeting on April 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the East clubhouse. Due to the limit to the number of people attending, there will be a signup sheet in both clubhouses. If there are enough people to hold 2 meetings, we will do so. We are also looking into perhaps broadcasting the meeting on Zoom. More info later. We will wear masks and social distance. If rules change by the meeting, we will make adjustments. Let us know if you have anything for our agenda. Penny (ELS park manager will attend)
- Regular bingo resumed on March 12. Thanks to all who kept bingo going until now. I think thanks go to Joe, Cindy, Sue, and Betty. If I missed anyone, we thank you also. Anyone who is interested in taking over this monthly fun time from November to May please contact Betty Buehrle.
- As things change, we will have some events following rules of ELS and the CDC. How about music at the East clubhouse on April 24? Watch for details and signup sheets in the clubhouses.
- Summer events are in the planning stages. If there is enough interest, there will be a few events over the summer.
- We discussed rules and inconsistencies we see around the park. We will continue to give management our concerns.
- No date for electrical work and the tree trimming. We continue to push for this.
- Any volunteers who might like to help on rent negotiating please let a director know.
- Waste Collections will pick up bulk trash for \$35.00 take away. Mention you are a Serendipity resident to get this discount. Their phone number is 727-572-6800 by appointment only.
- Please avoid swimming in our pools with oils and sunscreens. If you do not shower off the oils etc. It makes it difficult to keep the pool clean. New signs will be coming.
- Pinellas County Schools are looking for tutors to help children schooling at home. This is a paid position. Contact them at [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org) for tutoring information.

I had a phone meeting with Natalie from ELS and let her know some of our concerns. Some of these concerns were adhering to and enforcing rules. I asked about policies of returning phone calls to residents. It is expected to be returned in 24 to 48 hours. Many residents continue to call and never leave a message. I find the easiest way to get information is to email the office or leave a note in the drop box. I said we cannot use the COVID excuse forever so I am hoping that we will see some enforcement. We will ask for management meeting input at our April meeting.

Seems like many residents have received their vaccines and I think we are headed in the right direction to get back to normalcy (whatever that may be). Continue to follow the guidelines to stay safe and healthy.

Hoping everyone is enjoying our great weather. Be safe - *Pat*

**A Complete Listing of Resident Services  
can be found on the page before your calendar**

## Manager's Corner

Penny Garcia, Resort Manager  
[serendipity\\_mgr@equitylifestyle.com](mailto:serendipity_mgr@equitylifestyle.com)  
Office (727) 784-2675  
Fax (727) 781-7513  
Cell (727) 463-7656



## WELLNESS ACTIVITIES PAGE

*"We all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere."* - Tim McGraw

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*Beth Ott (727-787-3272)*

**J**oin us for a variety of chair exercise video routines that will increase your flexibility, balance, strength, and mobility. This is an easy format for all ages and abilities.

10:00AM Mondays - Chair Yoga

10:00AM Wednesdays - Chair Strength and Weights (only one weight 1-3 lbs. needed)

10:00AM Fridays - Chair Core

These classes are interesting, helpful, and fun especially in these trying times. A chance to get out of the house and meet new friends.

Social distancing is observed. Please bring sanitizing wipes for your chair and a mask.  
*-Beth Ott (727-787-3272)*

### **Line Dancing**

*Leslie Bellinger, 727-729-5039*

**L**INE DANCING IS ON HOLD FOR THIS SEASON. We will be starting again when the restrictions have lessened. Watch this Monthly Media Newsletter for the starting date. I will see you as soon as possible! Hope to "see you on the dance floor"- *Leslie*



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## Editor Notes

Nanci Dorau

321.201-2479

Lot # 378 [nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com](mailto:nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com)



**From the Editor**

**P**LEASE EMAIL OR CALL ME TO REPORT ANY CHANGES TO THE BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY LISTS!!! If our residents do not let me know of changes in the park, I cannot keep the editing of the newsletter current!

- Remember to get your submissions in to me before the 10th of each month. Any errors or late submissions will be noted in the next month's Monthly Media.
- If you are leaving the park for a month or more and would like paper copies of the Monthly Media, please let me (Nanci Dorau, 321-201-2479) know and I would be happy to hold them at my home for you to pick up when you return. Please remember that you can also view the Monthly Media at the website each month as well!

**\*\*\* A committee is working on updating the birthday and anniversary lists. So, bear with us if errors appear! Please send me updates on birthdays and anniversaries! Nanci**

\*\*\*If anyone would be interested in helping with the "Meet Your Neighbor" column for the Monthly Media, please call me or email me.

Remember these articles...

1. **Meet Your Neighbor!** With your permission, we will highlight a member of our community. Whether a new move-in or a seasoned veteran, we would like to know your name and a little about you.
2. **Marilyn's Recipe Corner!** Drop off your favorite recipe with your name at my home (#378) or email it to my address above and I will enter one each month in the newsletter.
3. **Community Articles!** If you wish to submit an article that may be interesting to our residents, feel free to email or drop it to me at #378 for editing and submission for publication. Be sure to add your name and phone number.

There is a **GREEN wooden box** on my driveway patio that says "NEWSLETTER" to leave any articles, recipes, or notices. You can also email me at [nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com](mailto:nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com)



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## Just-A-Note

Nanci Dorau, 321-201-2479

nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com

### From: Pat Lucksinger, HOA President:

\*\*\*A reminder to all residents who patronize the advertisers in the Monthly Media. Ask the advertiser for a Monthly Mania ticket when you have work completed. At this time, you can mail your completed ticket or a copy of a paid receipt from an advertiser to:

Monthly Media  
220 Bahama Street  
Venice, Fl 34285

Good luck! Maybe you'll win a cash prize. Remember the advertisers in our Serendipity Media Book make this publication possible with the advertising they pay for. Please patronize the advertisers that make this newsletter available to our community.

**We love our neighbors! Greet each other with a smile or a wave! That is what makes Serendipity special!**

## “Marilyn’s Recipe Corner” by Marilyn Farnworth

*From the kitchen of: Marilyn Farnworth*

### TORTILLA SOUP

Ingredients:

- 1 can enchilada sauce
- 1 can tomato sauce
- 1 can each of black, pinto, kidney, chickpeas
- 1 can kernel corn
- 1 can diced tomatoes with green chilies (Undrained)
- Chopped green peppers and onions.

Directions:

- Place all of the above ingredients into a crock pot and simmer for 2-4 hours.
- Serve with shredded cheese and tortilla chips.
- Sour cream is optional.



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# Our Residents Birthdays & Anniversaries

\*\*\*A committee is working on updating the birthday and anniversary lists. So, bear with us if errors appear! Please send me updates on birthdays and anniversaries! Nanci

~April 2020~

Serendipity and our residents wish everyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this month a wonderful day.

Birthstone: Diamond

Birth Flower: Daisy and Sweet Pea

Birth Flower Meaning: Purity, innocence, and blissful pleasure!

## April BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Vicki Haydt
- 3 Martha Allen
- 5 Ron Houser
- 7 Denise Sauter
- 8 Lois Kahan
- 10 Patrick Lydon
- 17 Dawn Freelove
- 18 Scott Herman
- 20 Cecil Moore
- 21 Irene Bassett
- 22 Debbie Goodall
- 22 Randy Friedman
- 25 Jim Manske
- 30 Leslie Bellinger



## April ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Wayne & Dawn Roberts
- 4 Steve & Linda Fecura
- 8 Stan & Lorain Reitzel
- 10 Cliff & Ann Bittner
- 14 Dave & Gloria Hall
- 17 Jim & Betty Wright
- 30 Adrian & Marilyn Farnworth







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4. Has your doctor called you to explain your risk of coronavirus?
5. Is your doctor's office offering doctor phone visits?
6. Does your doctor allow walk-in visits?
7. Are you able to call your doctor anytime, day or night?
8. Do you have any difficulty getting to and from your doctor?
9. Is your doctor helping to make sure you receive all of your prescription refills?
10. Is your doctor offering to help you get your medications delivered?

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**Curlew United Methodist Church**

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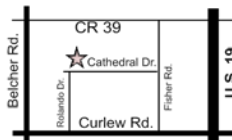
**Holy Week Services**

- Palm Sunday (3/28), 10:30 am**
- Maundy Thursday (4/01), 4:00 pm**
- Good Friday (4/02), 2:00 pm**
- Easter (4/04), 10:30 am**

*"He is not here! He is risen!"*

**Curlew United Methodist Church**

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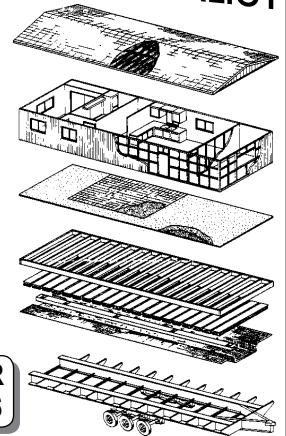
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## Celebrities with April Birthdays

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If you do not know who these people are, here is something for you to do in your spare time...Google their names!

- Jerry Seinfeld, April 29, 1954
- Washington Irving: April 3, 1783.
- Maya Angelou: April 4, 1928.
- Booker T. Washington: April 5, 1856.
- Billie Holiday: April 7, 1915.
- Charlie Chaplin: April 16, 1889.
- Ella Fitzgerald: April 25, 1917.
- Marvin Gaye, April 2, 1939.
- Jane Goodall, April 3, 1934.
- Jackie Chan, April 7, 1954.
- Leonardo da Vinci, April 15, 1452.
- Jack Nicholson, April 22, 1937.
- William Shakespeare, April 23, 1564
- Jane Powell, April 1, 1928
- Debbie Reynolds, April 1, 1932
- Ali MacGraw, April 1, 1938
- Hans Christian Anderson, April 2, 1805
- Casey Kasem, April 27, 1932
- Meadowlark Lemon, April 25, 1932



## Bingo

*Melissa Caswell, 518-337-0120, Betty Sager, 518-308-9329*

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**R**egular BINGO has started up again! You will need to continue to social distance for a while longer and wear your masks. We are looking volunteers to run the bingo full time please see Melissa Caswell if you are interested or call 518-337-0120 please bring a friend with you to enjoy a night out it has been a long time since many of you have seen some of your friends and neighbors can't wait to see everyone.



BINGO is played in the East clubhouse. We have all new equipment including a new screen and computer. We play BINGO every THURSDAY at 7:00 P. M. sharp! Please bring a friend, bring a neighbor! It's a fun night out and you can get a chance to meet new people. I want to thank everyone for participating in our BINGO. We have a great group of people and we always welcome more to attend - the more the merrier! This also means the bigger the pots to win.

*- Melissa Caswell*



## Bocce Ball

Deb Genovese – [dgenovese76@gmail.com](mailto:dgenovese76@gmail.com)

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**C**ome join us for a fun game of Bocce Ball on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Bocce Ball courts behind the exercise room. You do not need any equipment; we provide it all! There is no need to sign up. Just come to have fun! Starting April 19, 2021.

## Bowling

Bob Jones, 727-638-0822

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### **BOWLING IS POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**T**o all our park residents – we would like to invite you all to join our Friday morning mixed bowling family in the coming months. There will be a signup sheet in the West Clubhouse only for new bowlers to sign up for just in case all goes well!

Watch this Monthly Media and the bulletin boards for information on any changes or updates. No matter how well you bowl, please come, join our bowling family, and have a great time with us! We are a “fun” league, and we cheer everyone on! It is never too late to join. If you have any questions, please call me at 727-638-0822.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the lanes in the near future! -Bob

## Bridge

Steve Sisson, 727-772-5882

---

**B**RIDGE GAMES ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! Hi all! Games are played on Thursdays at 7:00 P. M. at the East Clubhouse. New players are welcome, and instruction is available. Call for information and to let us know you will be attending.



-Steve

## Cards – 65 Rummy

---

**C**ARD GAMES ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! Cards are played every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the West Clubhouse. We will play on Fridays at 6:30 at the West Clubhouse. It’s easy to play. Come join us for a fun night out.

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## Cribbage

Steve Gebbett, 727-784-0439 or Jim Beatty, 727-216-3715

---

**C**RIBBAGE GAMES ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! Cribbage is played on Tuesdays at 7:00 P. M. in the card room in the East Hall. See you there!  
-Steve

## Dominoes

Phyllis Messina, 727- 785-3249

---

**D**OMINO GAMES ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! We are always looking for more players. Everyone is welcome. Come for the **FUN!** Dominoes are played year-round every Sunday and Wednesday at 6:30 P. M. in the West Clubhouse. For further information please phone Phyllis Messina at 785-3249.

## Euchre

Marty & Beth Ott, 727-787-3272

---

**S**tay well, and hopefully we can resume play soon!  
-Beth and Marty



## 'Monday' Golf at Tarpon Springs Golf Course

Linda Taylor, 727-418-4087

---

**M**onday Golf is now being played primarily at Tarpon Springs Golf Course. At the present time, tee times are beginning at 8:30 A. M.

Anyone interested in playing with the group can contact me at [lindataylor661@hotmail.com](mailto:lindataylor661@hotmail.com) or call at 727-418-4087. Everyone is welcome and you do not have to be a resident of Serendipity.

- Linda



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right click with mouse to download to your computer**



## 'Tuesday' Golf League

Jean-Louis Lamontagne, 727-787-1213, or Jim Beatty, 727-216-3715



**T**he Tuesday Golf League has been suspended this season; however, we are planning on starting back up in the fall. Please check the Monthly Media for updates later this summer.

*-Jim and JL*

## Ladies Luncheon

Phyllis Messina, Marge DeMarco, 727-204-7919



**L**ADIES LUNCHEON ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!  
*Please join us for a lovely time!*  
*-Phyllis and Marge*



## Meet Your Neighbor!

Nanci Dorau, 321-201-2479

\*\*\*I am looking for someone to help me out with this column. Please call or email me. Nanci.

## Mah Jongg

Melissa Caswell, 518-337-0120



**M**AH JONGG IS ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! We would be unable to play the game and sit at the 6-foot distance recommended for social distancing during this pandemic. Hopefully, we will get past this soon and things can get back to normal. I miss all our players and cannot wait to be able to get together soon. Watch the bulletin boards for updates. I hope you can join us when we begin to play again soon!

*- Melissa Caswell*

Mah Jongg is played every Wednesday, 1:00 P. M. until 3:00 P. M. in the East clubhouse. Anyone is invited to join us. Don't worry if you never played because these are learning classes as well as people who know how to play. It is a fun game, and you will be able to meet some of your neighbors as well.

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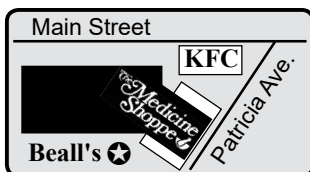
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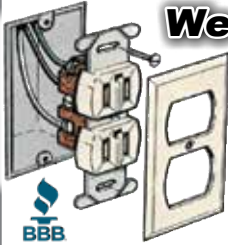
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# APRIL 2021

Sunday							Monday							Tuesday						
MAY																				
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8														
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22														
23	24	25	26	27	28	29														
30	31																			
4							5							6						
6:30P Dominoes - W Easter Parade- TBA							TBA Bingo - Riveria 8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC 10:00A Chair Yoga- E							6:30P 65 7:00P Cr						
Easter																				
11							12							13						
6:30P Dominoes - W							TBA Bingo - Riveria 8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC 10:00A Chair Yoga- E							6:30P 65 7:00P Cr						
18							19							20						
6:30P Dominoes - W							TBA Bingo - Riveria 8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC 10:00A Chair Yoga- E 6:30P Bocce Ball - E							6:30P 65 7:00P Cr 7:00P H						
25							26							27						
6:30P Dominoes - W							TBA Bingo - Riveria 8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC 10:00A Chair Yoga- E 6:30P Bocce Ball - E							6:30P 65 7:00P Cr						

# Serendipity

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00P Bridge - E 7:00P Bingo -E	2 10:00A Core Class - E 6:30P Pinochle- W 6:30P 65 Rummy - W	3
		April Fool's Day	Good Friday	
6 5 Rummy - W Bibbage - E	7 10:00A Strength Class - E 6:30P Dominoes - W	8 7:00P Bridge - E 7:00P Bingo -E	9 10:00A Core Class - E 6:30P Pinochle- W 6:30P 65 Rummy - W	10 7-9:30A Coffee Clutch - E 10:00P Month Media Copy Deadline
13 5 Rummy - W Bibbage - E	14 10:00A Strength Class - E 6:30P Dominoes - W	15 7:00P Bridge - E 7:00P Bingo -E	16 10:00A Core Class - E 6:30P Pinochle- W 6:30P 65 Rummy - W	17
20 5 Rummy - W Bibbage - E OA Mtg. - E	21 10:00A Strength Class - E 6:30P Dominoes - W	22 7:00P Bridge - E 7:00P Bingo -E	23 10:00A Core Class - E 6:30P Pinochle- W 6:30P 65 Rummy - W	24 TBA Concert - E
27 5 Rummy - W Bibbage - E	28 10:00A Strength Class - E 6:30P Dominoes - W	29 7:00P Bridge - E 7:00P Bingo -E	30 10:00A Core Class - E 6:30P Pinochle- W 6:30P 65 Rummy - W	



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## Pinochle

Jan Barrett, 727-786-8638, Annette Davis, 727-253-4316

---

### **P**INOCHLE IS ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

Pinochle is every Friday at 6:30 P. M. in the West Clubhouse. It is only \$1.00 to play. Everyone is welcome. Come watch, learn this old-time game, and have fun! Watch the bulletin boards for future information.

*Come and join us, Jan Barrett and Annette Davis*

## Shuffleboard/Fun League

Chuck Bellinger (727-729-5039), George Wagner (716-604-6370)

---

**S**HUFFLEBOARD IS ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. Hope all is well with everyone and we get through this Covid-19 disaster we are experiencing. You are encouraged to continue to shuffle, just get a group to meet on any day. You can put a notice on the Shuffle white board if you want to get a group together. Good health to all!

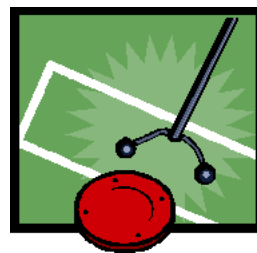
Listed below are the new officers for the 2021 season. Many thanks to those that volunteered.

### Officers and Captains for 2021-

Chuck Bellinger, President  
Jan Barrett, Vice President  
Terry Morlock, Secretary  
Jim Lewandowski, Treasurer

### Captains-

Annette Davis  
Roger Caseley  
Dawn Roberts  
Betty Sager



*Try it you will like it! Chuck Bellinger*

## HOA and Social Committee Update

Pat Lucksinger, President, 518-573-0968, Betty Buehrle, Social Director, 330-232-6345

---



**\*\*\*PLEASE CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARDS, SERENDIPITY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION'S FACEBOOK PAGE, THE ELECTRONIC BOARD AT SERENDIPITY'S ENTRANCE, OR CALL THE CHAIR OF YOUR EVENT/GAME TO SEE IF IT IS BEING HELD THIS MONTH. BE SAFE, WASH YOUR HANDS AND STAY HEALTHY!**

*continued on page 29*



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**Our HOA meetings are the third Tuesday of the month from November till April.**

**\*\*\*NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021 AT 7:00 PM, EAST CLUBHOUSE**  
Sign up sheet on bulletin board in West Clubhouse.

We are always looking for more volunteers. Informational flyers for all events are posted in both the East and West Clubhouses. Sign-up sheets are only posted in the West Clubhouse

## **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

**N**ow that the vaccines are being given at a good pace now, I am hoping most of our residents have gotten them or are in the process of. I am sure that having gotten the vaccine is helping us feel better about going out and about with our neighbors and friends again. Although at this time of writing, we still need to practice social distancing and wearing masks inside public buildings or when social distancing is not available. Moving forward, our social committee is starting to plan summer and fall events. If you want to be on the committee to help with events please call Betty Buehrle. For information about our events please check the Serendipity Facebook group, bulletin boards at both clubhouses, and the electric sign at the front entrance.

## **EASTER PARADE WITH EASTER BUNNY**

**W**HEN: Sunday, APRIL 4. MARK THE DATE! We are still in the planning stages so look for further details in FaceBook Serendipity Group or both clubhouses bulletin boards.



## **APRIL CONCERT**

When: Saturday, April 24

Where: East Clubhouse, inside or out, depending on weather.

Time: TBA

Music: Michael Jayne

**W**eather permitting, we will have the concert on the clubhouse porch. Residents bring your lawn chairs, beverages, and snacks/food. But no sharing, please.

At the time of this writing, we are just starting the process of planning this event. Please refer to the flyers on the bulletin boards in both clubhouses for further details. Pam M will be chairing this event as soon as we get approval from Management.



## **TRIVIA**

**L**ooking for someone to lead our Trivia game. All supplies will be provided. If interested, please call Betty Buehrle for further info.

*continued on page 30*





## FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE

**C**ancelled until further notice. Thanks to all that were coming to the movies. We will continue them again in the future.

## COFFEE CLUTCH

*Sue Shumyhora: 203 615 1043.*



---

**W**hen: DUE TO EASTER HOLIDAY- COFFEE CLUTCH WILL BE SATURDAY, APRIL 10.  
Where: East Clubhouse  
Time: 7:30 to 9:30.

Come join us for coffee and SUNSHINE DONUTS at the East Clubhouse. Bring your own cup/mug and your mask. Donuts are \$1.00 and Apple Fritters are \$2.00. Meet new friends and enjoy the good fellowship of friendly people!

## Notes from Betty Buehrle:

**W**e are always open to new ideas for events that can follow CDC guidelines. Please give me a call or if any questions. Thank You!  
There are a few small groups meeting at the East Clubhouse adhering to Social Distancing and wearing masks for safety:



Monday at 10:00 AM Chair Yoga, bring your own masks and wipes for chairs.

Wednesday at 10:00 AM Strength Class, bring your own weights, masks, and wipes for chairs.

Friday at 10:00 AM Core Strength Class, bring your own masks and wipes for chairs.

Thursday at 7:00 PM Small scale Bingo, Cards are \$2-4, bring your own dobbers, and place mats.

## Activities on your own available:

- Swimming Pool
- Bocce Ball
- Shuffleboard. See office for equipment.
- Billiards
- Cards in either clubhouse
- Gym/Fitness Center

Please Remember: Be responsible! Maintain safe social distancing. Wear masks where required. **Clean off your tables, chairs, and gym equipment after use!** Have a good time staying safe and healthy!

**\*\*Billiards and Shuffleboard players must be 18 years old to play without adult supervision! \*\***  
Any questions on social events please call *Betty B, 330-232-6345.*



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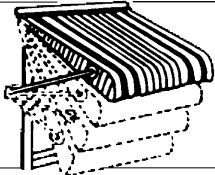
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# THE CURIOSITY CORNER

by Dennis Buehrle, Resident

## The US Sultana

The month of April 1865 gave the northern states a series of historical events. The Union Army won a series of battles that ended with the Army of Northern Virginia surrendering at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865. John Wilkes Booth assassinated President Lincoln at Ford Theater on the 14th of April. Then Booth was later cornered and killed on the 26th of April and General Johnston formalized his surrender to General Sherman on the same date. These events however overshadowed one of the war's saddest moments that became the worst maritime disaster in American history.



The Sultana was a side-wheel, Mississippi River steamboat constructed of wood by the John Litherbury Boatyard in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1863. It was 260 ft. long, with a 42 ft. beam, four decks including pilothouse capable of carrying 376 passengers and cargo, with a crew of 85. It usually ran a route between St. Louis and New Orleans but was frequently commissioned to carry troops.


On a trip to New Orleans the Sultana stopped at Vicksburg, Mississippi where Captain Mason was approached by Colonel Hatch, the chief quartermaster, with a proposition. The government was willing to pay \$2.75 per soldier and \$8.00 per officer, other reference sources stated \$5 per enlisted and \$10 per officer, to any steamboat captain that would take a group of released prisoners to the North. The colonel, seeking a kickback, promised a packed boat. The captain desiring to make a substantial amount of money agreed to the deal. He would pick up his promised passengers on his return from New Orleans.

On the return to Vicksburg one of the boilers sprang a leak about 10 hours south of Vicksburg. The vessel limped into port for repair and to unload cargo. Captain Mason, after being informed of the extent of the repair, did not desire to wait to make the proper repair. He could lose his precious cargo of prisoners to other boats during that time. He and his chief engineer convinced the hired mechanic to make temporary repairs. The reluctant mechanic hammered back the bulging boiler plate and riveted a thinner steel patch over the seam. Instead of 2 - 3 days, the repair could take place during the time spent in port unloading cargo and loading the paroled prisoners.

The passengers, paroled Union soldiers from Confederate prison camps, came from camp Cahaba, near Selma, Alabama, and Andersonville, in southwestern Georgia. They were primarily from Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia and physically weakened from

*continued on page 34*





their stay in these camps. The vessel became so overloaded that thick wooden beams were used to help reinforce the decks to support the added weight.

The Sultana spent the next two days fighting the fast current of one of the worst spring floods in the river's history. On April 26, Sultana stopped in Helena, Arkansas where the photograph above was taken by Thomas Bankes showing the grossly overcrowded vessel. Later around 7:00 p.m. Sultana reached Memphis and unloaded its cargo of sugar and possibly about 200 men. She then left, heading north to meet some coal barges a short distance upriver. At around 1:00 a.m., after receiving more coal for their journey the Sultana headed north once again, at approximately 2:00 a.m., just seven miles north of Memphis, the first boiler exploded, quickly followed by the explosions of two more.

The explosion went upward though the crowded decks destroying the pilothouse and throwing pieces of the vessel skyward. One smokestack fell into the gaping hole created by the explosion. The other stack fell forward onto the crowded deck upper deck. The upper deck then collapsed into the exposed furnace boxes. The collapsed deck soon caught fire turning the vessel into an inferno. One paddle wheel fell into the water and when the vessel turned sideways the remaining paddle wheel fell into the water. Survivors leaped into the water to escape the intense flames. In their weakened state however they soon began to cling to one another or anything afloat, to help them fight against the cold, strong current of the Mississippi. Whole groups of exhausted soldiers went under together.

At around 3:00 a.m. the southbound vessel Bostona arrived on the scene and rescued many survivors. Others drifted down to Memphis and yelled for help as they drifted by the waterfront. People along the waterfront saved as many as possible. However, bodies were still pulled from the river for months afterwards and many never recovered. The burning remains of the Sultana drifted down river about six miles and sank off the West bank of the Mississippi at around 9:00 a.m.

The normal passenger capacity of the boat was 376. It was carrying approx. 2,150 passengers with some references listing totals as high 2,500, more than six times legal capacity. Most of Sultana's officers and Captain Mason perished. Early estimated casualty counts ranged from 1100 to approx. 1260, some reference materials say as high as 1800. The official count by the US Customs Service is 1547 casualties, making the sinking of the Sultana the worst maritime disaster in American history.

The exact cause of the explosion is not known. Theories of sabotage have been proposed but discounted. The more plausible theories were exceeding recommended boiler pressures to compensate for the river current. Stress fractures in the boiler plate steel due to repeated heating and cooling cycles contributed to the failure. The official cause was determined to be mismanagement of boiler water levels, faulty boiler repair and severe overcrowding.

The ultimate decision to overload the Sultana was Captain Mason's. However, he perished in the explosion. Captain Hatch, the chief quartermaster of Vicksburg, was also blamed for overcrowding the vessel. He had a history of corruption and incompetence but was a competent thief. He had swindled the government out thousands of dollars and with his political connections however, always managed to deflect military charges. After the disaster he refused, on three different occasions, to appear before a trial to give testimony. He died in 1871, escaping any consequences of the Sultana disaster.

*continued on page 36*

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### **Lauren Holderith, M.D.**

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Dr. Holderith is a primary care physician with over 10 years experience delivering care to patients in the Tampa Bay Area. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida before completing her medical degree at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine and residency training at the University of South Florida. Dr. Holderith received multiple awards as an outstanding resident and is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha national medical honor society. Dr. Holderith dedicates herself to providing high-quality compassionate care and has a special interest in preventative medicine and cardiovascular health.



### **Camille Mattia, M.D.**

Board Certified, Internal Medicine

Dr. Mattia attended Boston College as an undergraduate and completed her medical degree at the University of Florida College of Medicine and post-graduate training at the University of South Florida. Consistently recognized by the Residency Evaluation Committee as an outstanding resident committed to patient care, professionalism, and personal development, Dr. Mattia has had a strong focus on outpatient preventative care throughout her training. Dr. Mattia strives to create a welcoming practice environment for her patients, establishing long-term relationships based on trust and good communication.

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The war had for all practical intents and purposes ended almost three weeks earlier. These soldiers had survived the war. Many if not most had been prisoners of war, some came from one of the darkest prison camps in the south, Andersonville. They were so close, just days away from seeing their loved ones, from being able to live the remainder of their lives in relative piece.

There are many historical events that are deemed not relevant or worthy to mention and fade into obscurity. To keep this story from fading away, the city of Marion, Arkansas has created a temporary museum near City Hall to tell the story. On display are pictures, personal items from soldiers, pieces of the Sultana, and a 14-foot replica of the unfortunate steamboat.

On Memorial Day we pay homage to those who lost their lives in wars our country has fought. Lost in the day's observance is the fact that Memorial Day, originally Decoration Day, was created to remember those lives lost in the Civil War. On Memorial Day, in cemeteries that have memorials commemorating the Sultana disaster, you may see a history buff, re-enactor or a group of Civil War re-enactors standing by the lone memorial in silence. Thinking of the sad irony, that these soldiers survived a terrible war only to senselessly lose their lives on the way home.

References:

[wikipedia.org/sultana](http://wikipedia.org/sultana)

[battlefields.org/sultana-disaster](http://battlefields.org/sultana-disaster)

[npr.org/the-shipwreck-that-led-confederates-veterans-to-risk-all-for-union-lives](http://npr.org/the-shipwreck-that-led-confederates-veterans-to-risk-all-for-union-lives)





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## Sunshine Gal

Beth Ott, (727)787-3272, (513)404-7937 – cell, bott50@hotmail.com

---

### PLEASE CONTACT BETH WITH THE NAMES OF ANY OF OUR RESIDENTS WHO SHOULD RECEIVE CARDS!

I will send “Get Well” or “Thinking of You” cards to our residents who are ill, have been hospitalized, or just need a cheerful note.

“Sympathy” cards will be sent to a resident who has lost a family member or to the families of a resident who has passed away. Please contact me with information concerning anyone needing a calming, caring thought.



### *“THOUGHTFUL CARDS ARE LIKE SUNSHINE TO YOUR SOUL”*

#### “Sympathy” cards were sent to:

Ross Collejo, Lot #390. His sister passed away.

Bill & Janice Lemunyan, Lot # 343. Bill’s mom passed away.

Gloria Morrow, Lot # 337. Her brother passed away.

Marge DeMarco, Lot #150. Marge’s mom passed away and also her brother – in – law.

Marie Holiday, a former resident. Marie’s dad, Bob Holiday, who was a long-time resident at Lot #333 passed away. The card was sent to Marie at her home up north at: 21 Micahill Road, Levitown, PA 19056.

#### “Get Well” cards were sent to:

Doreen Legg, Lot # 108

Mel Dipple, Lot # 310

**EDITOR’S NOTE: “Thinking of you WISHES” are sent to: BOTH Beth and Marty Ott. Beth is in California until the end of March taking care of her brother, who is recovering from major surgery and Marty did a trip to Philadelphia this week with his 3 brothers to visit his terminally ill sister. Sending warm thoughts to you both.**

*Blessings to all! Your Sunshine Gal, Beth*





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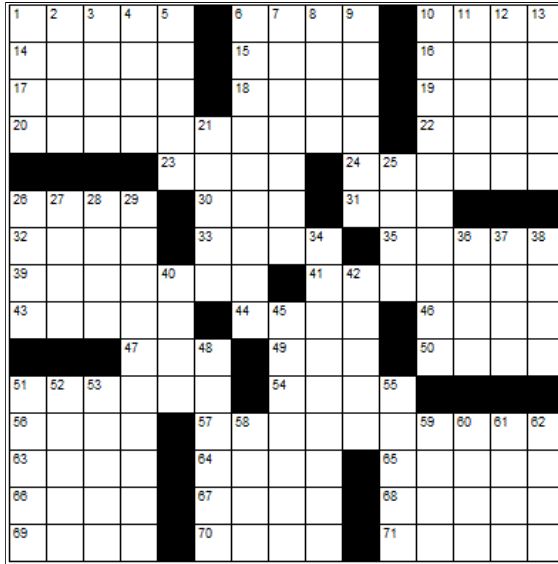
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**ACROSS**

- 1. Splotches
- 6. Tussock
- 10. Vipers
- 14. 67 in Roman numerals
- 15. Dwarf buffalo
- 16. A D-Day beach
- 17. Stave off
- 18. Blend
- 19. Roman robe
- 20. A language of India
- 22. Egg-shaped
- 23. Verse
- 24. Agitate
- 26. At the peak of
- 30. Beer
- 31. To and \_\_\_\_\_
- 32. A temple (archaic)
- 33. Start over
- 35. Assists
- 39. She plays roles



- 41. Enrapture
- 43. Spacious
- 44. Not barefoot
- 46. 53 in Roman numerals
- 47. Bother
- 49. French for "Friend"
- 50. Being
- 51. A dwarfed ornamental tree
- 54. Blend
- 56. God of love
- 57. A society of women
- 63. Medium-sized tubular pasta
- 64. Bit of dust
- 65. A tea-like beverage
- 66. River of Spain
- 67. Pitcher
- 68. Cambered
- 69. Mortgage
- 70. Sailors
- 71. Low heavy horse carts

- 1. Ho-hum
- 2. 66 in Roman numerals
- 3. Baking appliance
- 4. Fowl
- 5. A stomach exercise
- 6. Trashy
- 7. Wild
- 8. Thrust with a knife
- 9. A government tax
- 10. Car
- 11. Kitchen appliance
- 12. Heathen

**DOWN**

- 13. Second person singular of shall
- 21. Rise rapidly
- 25. By mouth
- 26. Distant
- 27. Meal in a shell
- 28. Savvy about
- 29. Approval
- 34. Mileage meters
- 36. Auspices
- 37. Not that
- 38. Anagram of "Ties"
- 40. Tropical American wildcat
- 42. Ancient Roman magistrate
- 45. A type of rodent
- 48. Fate
- 51. Edge on a cutting tool
- 52. Small African antelope
- 53. French for "Our"
- 55. Wood nymph
- 58. Hawkeye State
- 59. German for "Mister"
- 60. Killer whale
- 61. Comply with
- 62. Fathers



April  
Crossword





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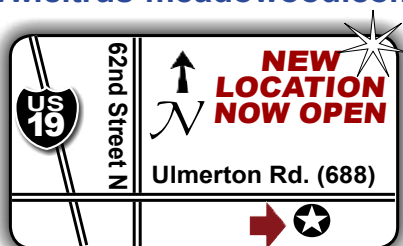
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## Last will

Robert went to a lawyer and said, "I'd like to make a will, but I don't know exactly how to go about it."

The lawyer smiled at Robert and replied, "Not a problem, just leave everything to me."

Robert looked upset. "I knew you were going to take a big portion, but I would like to leave a little to my family, too!"



## Happy landing

An airline had a policy that required the pilot to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and say, "Thanks for flying with our airline!" The landing on one particular flight was particularly rough, and the pilot had difficulty looking the passengers in the eye, expecting that one or two would have a smart comment for him. However, it seemed that all the passengers were too shaken to say anything.

Finally, everyone had gotten off except for one little old lady walking with a cane. At the door she said, "Sonny, mind if I ask you a question?"

"Why, no, ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?"

The woman said, "Did we land or were we shot down?"



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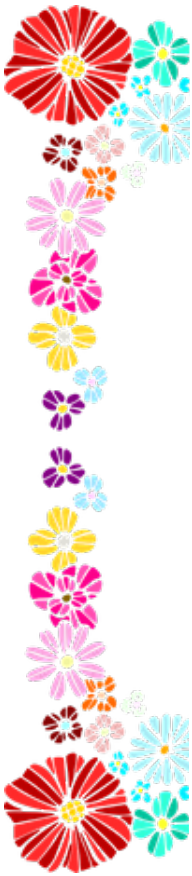
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**The reason I talk to myself is because I'm the only one whose answers I accept.**  
—George Carlin





# April Word Search

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

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claim  
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delve  
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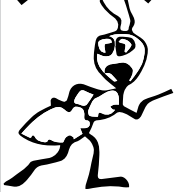
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**FLORIDA ANCHOR AND BARRIER COMPANY**

Ray Duncan

# PlumbingToday

CFG1428793

## SPECIALIZING IN MOBILE HOME REPAIRS

### SERVICE TODAY!

**33**

★

**40**

**UPFRONT, FLAT-RATE PRICING - NO SURPRISES.**

- ✓ Toilets Repaired and Replaced
- ✓ Sinks & Faucets Repaired and Replaced
- ✓ Water Heaters Repaired and Replaced

- ✓ Drain Clearing
- ✓ Drain Jetting
- ✓ Rooter Services
- ✓ Leaky Pipe Repairs
- ✓ Water Line Repairs
- ✓ Drain Pipe Relining

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**\$50 OFF ANY PLUMBING SERVICE!**

# EMPORIUM

**10 WORDS for \$8.55 - Each additional word is 80¢**

**Your Ad Will Appear in 60 Mobile Home Park Newsletters  
NO ADS ACCEPTED BY PHONE OR EMAIL**

### ARTICLES FOR SALE

For Sale: Up Walker used once \$150.00.  
Largo, FL 727-539-8090

Jazzy Elite motorized scooter chair,  
new batteries, excellent condition.  
\$1,000. 315-534-9700

Sylvan Abbey Cemetery, Clearwater,  
Crestlawn B, #78, space #4. (\$5,995)  
sell for \$3,200.  
Phone: 813-545-5559 / 727-475-9715



### EVENTS & PROGRAMS

**BIG SALE:** Furniture, bottles, Elvis,  
Avon. Lake Seminole Resort, 11104  
101st St., Largo. April, Friday 9th,  
Saturday 10th.

Carport Sale on Saturday, April 10th  
at Rancho Village, 7100 Ulmerton  
Road, Largo, 8:00 to 3:00. Masks must  
be worn and hand sanitizer will be  
available.



“Golfers Save the Date!!  
Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 1:00pm  
The Inaugural Blessed  
Sacrament School Golf Outing  
At Seminole Lake Country Club  
6100 Augusta Blvd. Seminole, FL 33777  
Hosted by the Knights of  
Columbus Council #17162  
Entry Fee \$75.00  
Prizes!!! Raffles!!! Food!!! Fun!!!  
Please call Mike 973.868.6111 or email  
mpop440@aol.com to RSVP”

### WANTED TO BUY

FURNITURE, good clean, pre-owned.  
Top dollar paid. Joe, 224-9780

## MAY AD DEADLINE - APRIL 10, 2021

- Advertise 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. • No mobile home sales, no professional products or services. SORRY: No ads accepted by phone or email. DEADLINE: 10th OF EACH MONTH.

# WINDOWS • VINYL SIDING • 727-547-8300

Lic #: C-2387

# ASC

Aluminum Specialty Contractors, Inc  
"A No-Nonsense Company"

Visit Our Showroom Display  
7420 Park Blvd. • Pinellas Park

We Are Not a Franchise... We Are **TRULY** Family Owned & Operated **30** ★ **27**

**New Windows**  
Improve the Looks of Your  
Home While Saving  
Energy & Money

**10% OFF!**  
expires 4/15/21

**Ask About Our  
Special  
Financing!**  
**12 mos.  
at 0% int.**  
(W.A.C.)



**VINYL IS FINAL**

**Vinyl Siding**  
**10% Off** expires  
4/15/21

"...I am so happy with my new windows...I'd like to commend your work crew. Earbie and Larry were fantastic! I couldn't believe the clean-up EVERYDAY! The whole job took just a week even with all the rain delays. I would and WILL highly recommend your company to my friends and neighbors. Of course I won't need to say a word - the house is doing all the talking! Thank you so much for my beautiful new house."

Carol Zapiecki, Clearwater, FL



visit: [www.ascaluminum.com](http://www.ascaluminum.com)

## Monthly Mania: It Pays (Up to \$100) To Patronize the Advertisers in Your Newsletter

**THOUSANDS** manufactured home residents have won over **\$156,200** since our contest began. It's simple to play ... when you patronize a current advertiser, ask for a Monthly Mania ticket (or a reasonable facsimile) and fill it out completely. Put the ticket in our Monthly Mania drop box in your community or **mail your paid receipt** to us at **Monthly Media • 220 Bahama St. • Venice, FL 34285**.

That's all you do. At the end of the month the Publishers will pick up the tickets and hold a drawing. If your ticket is drawn, we mail you a check.

**(Allow 4-6 weeks for mailing of check). This month's cash winners are:**

Ricky Brown..... \$100	Air Masters of Pinellas	Mike Maringer..... \$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Michael French..... \$10	AMS WC INC	Faye Oglesby..... \$5	Discount Computer Repair
Scott Wisemer..... \$10	Appliance Specialty	Joe Lain..... \$5	Royal Enterprise
Patty Wood..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Gloria Yeo..... \$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Carol Naberezny..... \$10	Heller's Mobile Home Washing	Eugene Kerkay..... \$5	Modern Pest Control
Michelle Bourdeau..... \$10	Ron Wyngarden	Patsy Brusseau..... \$5	Bill the Carpet Guy
Michael Arkonoff..... \$10	Discount Computer Repair	Cassandra Brady..... \$5	Community Roofing
Kendra Pashkovsky.... \$10	Boss Electric	Carol Moss..... \$5	Natures Resource Pest Control
Paul Hastay..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Ralph Masey..... \$5	Bob's Mobile Home Washing
John Klein..... \$10	Royal Enterprise	Kenneth Land..... \$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Beverly Henning..... \$10	Heller's Mobile Home Washing	Jim Frankenberger..... \$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Peter & Gail Files..... \$10	Doll Brothers	Hohn Reeves..... \$5	Suncoast Audiology, LLC
Rose Omara..... \$10	Debbie's Salon	Paulette Navar..... \$5	Rick's Appliances
Albert Hartin..... \$10	Bob's Mobile Home Washing	Beverly Tompson..... \$5	Discount Computer Repair
Lisa Acevedo..... \$5	Mobile Home Depot	Patricia Jacoby..... \$5	Community Roofing
Sandra Nine..... \$5	Community Roofing	Michael Harrington..... \$5	BugginOut Pest Control
Marilyn Moore..... \$5	Bill the Carpet Guy	Ed Pittman..... \$5	Bill the Carpet Guy
Gary McDermott..... \$5	Air Masters of Pinellas	Lori Rocznik..... \$5	Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Frank Prell..... \$5	Royal Enterprise	Betty Powell..... \$5	1st Class Handyman Service
Eddie Bethel..... \$5	Payless Painting	Debbie Ennis..... \$5	Royal Enterprise
Joanne Hehl..... \$5	Doll Brothers	Roberta Noris..... \$5	Doll Brothers
Grace Ahtila..... \$5	Debbie's Salon	Michael Schmaus..... \$5	Community Roofing
Terry Bogart..... \$5	BugginOut Pest Control	Randy Ellis..... \$5	Boss Electric
James Akin..... \$5	Bill the Carpet Guy	Maggie Griscavage..... \$5	Bill the Carpet Guy

- Limit of one ticket per visit • Advertiser may have up to 4 winners per month • Advertiser must have bill paid current to qualify
- No purchase necessary • Contest void where prohibited by law • Tickets available at participating Monthly Media advertisers.



# Park Directory

Bingo.....	Melissa Caswell.....	518-337-0120
.....	Betty Sager... ..	518-308-9329
Bowling Mixed .....	Bob Jones .....	638-0822
Bridge.....	Steve Sisson.....	727-772-5882
Chair Exercise.....	Beth Ott.....	727-787-3272
Cribbage.....	Steve Gebbett .....	784-0439
.....	Jim Beatty.....	216-3715
Dominoes .....	Phyllis Messina .....	785-3249
Euchre .....	Marty & Beth Ott .....	727-787-3272
Ladies Luncheon.....	Phyllis Messina .....	785-3249
Library.....	Anne Farson .....	813-215-6267
Line Dancing.....	Leslie Bellinger .....	729-5039
Mah Jongg.....	Melissa Caswell.....	518-337-0120
Monday Golf.....	Linda Taylor .....	727-418-4087
Monthly Media Editor.....	Nanci Dorau .....	321-201-2479
Pinochle.....	Jan Barrett .....	727-786-8638
Shuffleboard.....	Chuck Bellinger, Pres...727-729-5039	
Sunshine Gal.....	Beth Ott.....	513-404-7937
Tuesday Golf .....	JL Lamontagne .....	727-787-1213

## April Sudoku

8	2		9					
7							3	5
			3				2	
				8				
			4	9				
	4		7			1		
	1	6				9		
3			1					
	9	8	2	6			1	



5	9	8	2	6	7	3	1	4
3	7	2	1	4	9	5	8	6
4	1	6	5	3	8	9	7	2
6	4	5	7	2	3	1	9	8
2	8	7	4	9	1	6	5	3
9	3	1	6	8	5	2	4	7
1	5	4	3	7	6	8	2	9
7	6	9	8	1	2	4	3	5
8	2	3	9	5	4	7	6	1

# MOBILE HOME WASHING

## Hand Washing

Since 1988

Single or Double Wide

**\$79<sup>00</sup>**

**733-1166**

LICENSED & INSURED

Triple Wide or Special Additions May be Extra  
Screen Removal Not Necessary

### Heller's Mobile Home Washing

31 ★ ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER SERVICES 29

# ROOF WASHING & MINOR REPAIRS

## FREE Roof Inspection

with washing

31 ★ 29

Heller's Mobile Home Washing **733-1166**



# Precision Vapor Barriers

Have You Looked UNDER Your Home Lately? **PROTECT YOUR HOME**

**Fix Small Problems Today Before They Cause Serious Damage!**

We will inspect and photograph any issues, showing you pictures of the underside of your home. Damaged & worn vapor barriers can create high energy costs and allow mold & mildew to grow and weaken your sub floor creating "Soft Spots". Keep Mold, Moisture & Animals out of your Home.

Repairs will be made quickly and include a **20 Year Transferable Warranty!**

Call Us for a **FREE NO-PRESSURE No-Obligation Estimate**

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**727-288-4680**

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MasterCard  
DISCOVER

9

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As Little As **\$100 Monthly**

Wells Fargo Financing with Approved Credit

10 yrs. PARTS

## E&E GLIDDON AIR CONDITIONING

LIC # CACO 24340

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

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Air Conditioning & Heating

FREE ESTIMATES on NEW UNITS

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