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February • 2022

**Issue 12
45th Year**

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Serendipity Homeowners Association - 2021

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Vice President	Jerry Zielinski	727-242-7189 727-225-3657 - cell
Treasurer	Cindy Sharpe	727-386-5192 336-266-6304 - cell
Secretary	Linda Terenzini	518-505-0115
Social Director		
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

HOA President's UPDATES

Pat Luck singer, HOA President, 518-573-0968



***Facebook page: Serendipity Homeowners Association

- January elections are completed, and we congratulate the new directors/officers. March publications will be updated to reflect the new information. The media information is required by the 10th of each month for the following month.
- We are starting a call system to notify all residents by phone, text or email any information that could affect them. Examples could be storm warnings and evacuation instructions, a water break and estimated outage time, event notifications, ticket sale dates and any day-to-day activities and or cancellations. This should be operational when you're reading this. The system can use up to 3 phone numbers per coach to notify. You will have the ability to opt out of this program and choose how you're notified.
- We would like to offer residents the option of joining meetings from the comfort of their homes whether it be here or away. Another project in the works. Time to update our ways.
- Pet update: Please be sure you keep your pets' inoculations up to date and provide proof to the management office. If you haven't registered your pet, you should also do so.
- 360 inspections have started again, please keep your coach and lot clean and tidy. If we follow the rules, we will get a positive outcome. I continue to stress that there must be consistency in the park. We will continue to pay attention to this.

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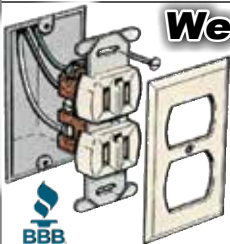
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- Hoping to get more trips going but that darn covid continues to haunt us. Looking into Savannah, Charlotte, New Orleans, and any suggestions you may bring. We are getting more interest than a year ago.
- We will continue to get vaccination/ booster shot clinics as new recommendations come out. We've learned from these and will get it more organized with appointment times. This pharmacy didn't think it was necessary and it was slow, but the job got done.

As I write this, I know covid numbers continue to climb but I'm hopeful by this media printing numbers are down, and we get back to going for normal again. I pray we continue to be open and able to enjoy our great amenities.

Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Everyday to everyone! -Pat



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WELLNESS ACTIVITIES PAGE

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Beth Ott (727-787-3272)



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These classes are interesting, and lots of fun. A chance to get out of the house and meet new friends.

-Beth Ott (727-787-3272)

NEW!!! WALKING CLUB

Join your neighbors as they walk the streets of Serendipity! We meet at the East Clubhouse at 9:00 AM every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The weather is glorious for this activity. Walk at your own pace, make new friends, and take the first steps towards a healthy lifestyle! If you have any questions, please call Margaret Ishler at 617-519-4130.



Line Dancing

Leslie Bellinger, 727-729-5039

Hi everyone. Line dancing is every Tuesday morning from 10-11:00AM at the East Clubhouse. Come and get a little exercise and have some fun too. We dance to songs like Boot Scootin' Boogie, Blueberry Hill, Beer Barrel Polka, and many more. If you have any questions give me a call. Hope to "see you on the dance floor!" Hope to "see you on the dance floor"- Leslie





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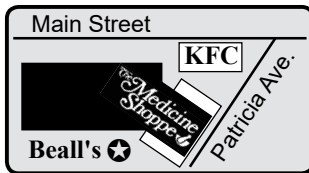
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Editor Notes

Nanci Dorau

321.201-2479 Lot # 378 nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com



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.

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

Just-A-Note

Nanci Dorau, 321-201-2479 nanci.j.dorau@gmail.com

From Val & Joyce Pietrkiewicz.... Val and Joyce would like to thank everyone who donated to our food drive for St. Vincent DePaul for Christmas. Just think of the people we all helped to have a nice Christmas meal. We brought the food to the facility and the girl came out and said "You can't park there!" We told her what we were doing, she saw all the food and that was only the first of 4 loads! Thank you all again for being so generous!

-Val and Joyce

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:

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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.



“The following article is the opinion of the author and does not reflect the views of Serendipity or the Monthly Media”

Things That Make You Go...HmMMMMM?

submitted by Neil Thomas, resident

INFLATION

The word inflation has been appearing more often in the news lately. Inflation is the rate of increase in the price for goods and services in an economy over a set time period. For example, the inflation rate for the year 2021 is about 6.8%. There are several causes for inflation. Monetary inflation is when the government just prints more money to pay its bills. The government has printed 40% of the money in use in the last 12 months. Demand-pull inflation occurs when an increase in the supply of money created an overall demand for goods and services in an economy to increase rapidly. This is typical inflation that we see all the time. Increase in beef prices, gasoline, clothing etc. Cost push inflation is a result of the increase working through the production process. Pay the fast-food worker 15\$ an hour and pay more for your hamburger. So much for the economics lesson. How do we calculate the inflation rate?

The inflation rate is calculated by using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI is a measure of the weighted average change over time in prices paid by the urban consumer for a market basket of consumer goods and services, such as food, fuel, utilities, transportation, housing, and thousands of items. Thus, this market basket of goods and services in 2021 increased about 6.8% over what it costs in 2020. The media and the government will be saying that the inflation rate for 2021 is about 6.8%. What is wrong with this number? It is grossly understated!

The consumer price index has been reconfigured since early 1980s to understate inflation. Politicians forced significant underreporting of items in the consumer price index. For example, housing is 42% of the CPI (weighted average.) The government estimates the cost of housing based on what homeowners theoretically would pay themselves to rent their home from themselves. The cost is not based on the home selling price. The government then estimates how much homeowners raise rent from themselves. This is just one example of how the CPI is understated. There are many more to mention but beyond the scope of this article, but the net effect is the CPI is understated. The government wanted these changes because it reduces the cost-of-living adjustments like Social Security. If we use the 1980 method of calculating the CPI, we will find the CPI is about 14% for 2021. This is the inflation rate of the Jimmy Carter years. That is why they are saying it is the highest inflation rate in 40 years. The 6.8% inflation rate is all you will hear about but, the 14% rate based on 1980 calculations is what it will feel like. Remember this is an election year and what Abe Lincoln said:” You can fool all of the people some of the time or some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time!”

This web page: (www.shadowstats.com/alternate_data/inflation-charts) has a graph showing 1980 based calculations versus official calculations from 1980 to 2021.

You Tube is streaming dozens of inflation rate and CPI rate programs. Here are a few: “Measuring Inflation”, “CPI = Inflation”, “Biggest Scam”, and” Why CPI Inflation Is A Lie.”



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“Marilyn’s Recipe Corner” by Marilyn Farnworth

From the kitchen of Marilyn Farnworth

SPLIT PEA SOUP WITH HAM BONE

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg (16oz) dried green split peas
- 1 meaty ham bone
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 tsp salt, ½ tsp pepper and thyme, minced garlic
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup chopped carrot and celery



Directions:

- In Dutch oven or crock pot add ham bone, peas, salt, pepper etc. and 2.5 quarts of water
- Bring to a boil and simmer for 1.5 hours
- Remove ham bone and cut meat off bone
- Return diced ham to pot and add carrots, celery
- Simmer 45-60 mins until desired thickness and veggies are tender Discard bay leaf and serve!



Our Residents Birthdays & Anniversaries

~FEBRUARY 2022~

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

Birthstone: Amethyst

Birth Flower: Violet, Primrose

Birth Flower Meaning: Modesty, Faithfulness, Young Love

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Wayne Roberts
- 7 Robin Bihorel
- 9 Shirley Cloutier
- 11 Val Pietrkiewicz
- 11 John McDougall
- 15 Warren Reed
- 16 Ed Mensinger
- 18 Troy Mooney
- 18 Cass Zielinski
- 22 Neil Thomas
- 23 David Hartley
- 24 Walt Shumyhora
- 26 Debbie Genovese
- 28 Richard Digleo



Celebrities with FEBRUARY Birthdays

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

- February 6, 1895 - George Herman Ruth
- February 10, 1966 - Greg Norman
- February 14, 1859 - George Washington Gale Ferris, Jr.
- February 16, 1958 - Ice-T
- February 17, 1936 - Jim Brown
- February 20, 1927 - Sidney Poitier
- February 20, 1929 - Amanda Blake
- February 20, 1963 - Charles Barkley
- February 21, 1933 - Rue McClanahan
- February 23, 1685 - George Frederic Handel
- February 24, 1955 - Steven Jobs
- February 25, 1851 - Pierre Aguste Renoir
- February 25, 1943 - George Harrison
- February 26, 1802 - Victor Hugo
- February 26, 1887 - William Frawley

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Jack & Gloria Smith
- 5 Leonard & Diana Meurer
- 9 Sue & Walt Shumyhora
- 14 Cecil & Nancy Moore
- 15 Christy & Vicki Haydt
- 20 Gary & Peggy Dubendorfer
- 24 John & Kathy McDougall
- 27 Larry & Diane Sullivan



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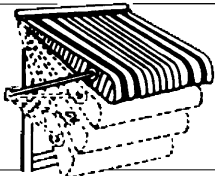


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Bingo

Cindy Sharpe, 336-366-6304, Sue Shumyhora, 203-615-1043



BINGO! Please bring a friend with you to enjoy a night out it and visit with friends and neighbors! BINGO is played in the East clubhouse every THURSDAY at 7:00 P. M. sharp. We play 8 games and 1 speedy. Cards for speedy are \$.50 each. Six card sheets are \$3.00 and 9 card sheets are \$5.00. You must be 18 years old to play. It's a fun night out, all residents are welcome, and you can get a chance to meet new people. 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.

Bocce Ball

Come join us for a fun game of Bocce Ball on Tuesdays 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 show up to have fun!



Bowling

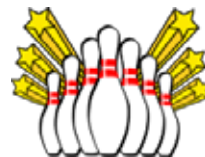
Bob Jones, 727-638-0822

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

League bowling started October 1, 2021, with practice bowling at 9:15 AM. The last league bowling day will be on March 11, 2022. The next Friday, March 18, 2022, will be Fun Friday – 9 Pin No Tap. The Banquet has been scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2022, with more information to follow.

We bowl at Maple Lanes, 27867 US Highway 19 N, Clearwater, Fl. Their phone number is (727) 796-8100. Watch this Monthly Media and the bulletin boards for information on any changes or updates. If you have any questions, please call me at 727-638-0822.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the lanes! -Bob

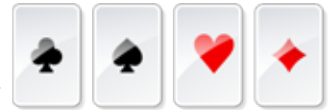


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Bridge

Steve Sisson, 727-772-5882



BRIDGE GAMES WILL RESUME SOON! 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

Diane L. Clement Coppens, 727-453-9752

65 RUMMY is held Wednesday at 6:30 PM at the West Clubhouse all year round. Bring \$.70 for both games and a friend! Come join us for a fun night out!



Cribbage

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

CRIBBAGE has started again! Cribbage is played on Tuesdays at 7:00 P. M. in the card room in the East Hall. Here are our winners for the beginning of January:

January 4, 2022	1st	Kay Krisp
	2nd	Al Wenning
	3rd	Sandy Wenning

January 11, 2022	1st	Steve Gerrett
	2nd	Annette Davis
	3rd	Joe Isabelle
		Ruth Teal



See you there! -Steve

Dominoes

Phyllis Messina, 727-453-2742

Call Phyllis for more information! We are always looking for more players. Everyone is welcome. Come for the **FUN!** Dominoes are played every Sunday at 6:30 PM. at Phyllis' house, Lot # 172. Please bring \$.95! Phyllis's phone is 727-453-2742.





10 ★ 6

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-Beth and Marty

'Monday' Golf at Tarpon Springs Golf Course

Linda Taylor, 727-418-4087



Monday Golf will be playing at Tarpon Springs Golf Course during this season. Tee times will begin at 8:30 a.m. Anyone interested in playing with the group can contact me at lindataylor661@hotmail.com or 727-418-4087 for information. Everyone is welcome and you do not have to be a resident of Serendipity.

- Linda

'Tuesday' Golf League

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



Now that the border has opened effective November 8th, we are expecting an influx of golfers, so please contact JL via email to secure a Tee-Time. We are looking forward to another successful season of league play. All level of golfers are welcome. We want everyone to enjoy themselves.

Please watch the Clubhouse Bulletin Boards for the specifics on this league. The Serendipity Tuesday Golf League has an arrangement with Crescent Oaks Golf Club. If you want to play with the league, please email JL at jeanlouis.lamontagne@gmail.com, and he will notify the course.

Looking forward to a wonderful golf season!

-Jim and JL

Ladies Luncheon

Phyllis Messina, 727-453-2742/Marge DeMarco, 727-204-7919



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-Phyllis and Marge



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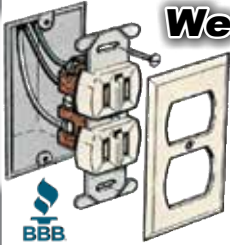
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>MARCH</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30 31</p>		
<p>6:00P Dominoes - #172</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E</p> <p>10:00A Chair Yoga - E</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00A L... TBA Golf... Oaks GC... 6:30P Bo... 7:00P Cr...</p>
<p>5:00P NFL Championship Party - E</p> <p>6:00P Dominoes - #172</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E</p> <p>10:00A Chair Yoga - E</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00A L... TBA Golf... Oaks GC... 6:00P She... 6:30P Bo... 7:00P Cr... 7:00P HC...</p>
	Valentine's Day	
<p>6:00P Dominoes - #172</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E</p> <p>10:00A Chair Yoga - E</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00A L... TBA Golf... Oaks GC... 6:30P Bo... 7:00P Cr...</p>
	Washing	
<p>6:00P Dominoes - #172</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:30A Golf - Tarpon Springs GC</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E</p> <p>10:00A Chair Yoga - E</p>	<p>28</p>

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Serendipity

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Line Dance - E f - Crescent</p> <p>ce - E abbage - E</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club -E 10:00A Chair Strength - E 6:30P 65 Rummy - W 7-9P Big Band - E</p> <p>Groundhog Day</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00P Bingo -E</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E 9:15A Bowl - Maple Lanes 10:00A Chair Core - E</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:30-9:30A Coffee Klatch - E</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Line Dance - E f - Crescent</p> <p>ce - E abbage - E</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club -E 10:00A Chair Strength - E 6:30P 65 Rummy - W 7-9P Big Band - E</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00P Bingo -E 10:00P Month Media Copy Deadline</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E 9:15A Bowl - Maple Lanes 10:00A Chair Core - E</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30P Valentine Dance - E</p> <p>Lincoln's Birthday</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Line Dance - E f - Crescent</p> <p>eriff Guest Spk-E ce - E abbage - E A Meeting - E</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club -E 10:00A Chair Strength - E 6:30P 65 Rummy - W 7-9P Big Band - E</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00P Bingo -E</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E 9:15A Bowl - Maple Lanes 10:00A Chair Core - E</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Line Dance - E f - Crescent</p> <p>ce - E abbage - E</p> <p>gton's Birthday</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club -E 10:00A Chair Strength - E 6:30P 65 Rummy - W 7-9P Big Band - E</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00P Bingo -E</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00A Walking Club - E 9:15A Bowl - Maple Lanes 10:00A Chair Core - E</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00P Trivia - E</p>

Meet Your Neighbor!

Nanci Dorau, 321-201-2479

INTRODUCING: DAVID and SHARON HOWARD! Lot 276.

The Howards moved to Serendipity the first of April 2021, from their home in Pell City, Alabama. Their two sons Troy and Shaun also moved to the Sunshine State and reside in Pinellas Park. Dave retired from Trackmobile Inc. as Marketing Communications Manager in 2009. Sharon is a former hairdresser. They have moved around throughout Dave's career and have always been looking forward to the Florida lifestyle.

Dave is a Veteran of the US Navy. He has already begun volunteering for social activities in the park and is currently playing dishwasher at dinner functions. He is a diehard University of Michigan fan and can be seen frequently on his porch watching their games! Sharon loves to crochet and watch westerns!

Say hello to this wonderful couple as you go by their home on the corner of Persia and Ceylon (#276). Who knows? You might get invited to come and sit on the porch and watch the game!



***Editor's Note: This is a great picture of David and Sharon Howard! It is from a Community Theater production of "Truman Capote" where David played the lead! We have a star in our midst! Welcome to Florida you two! -Nanci

Pinochle

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

PINOCHLE WILL RESUME SOON!

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.

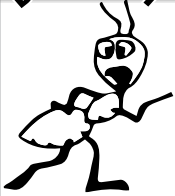


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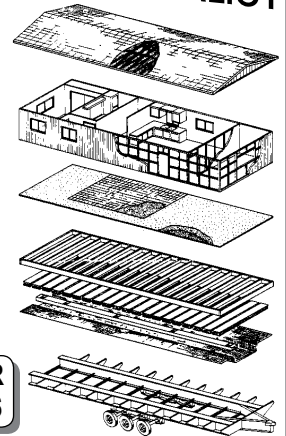
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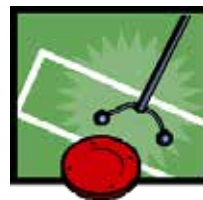
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KEEP YOUR EYES TO THE BULLETIN BOARDS AND THE MONTHLY MEDIA FOR NEWS ON SHUFFLEBOARD THIS SEASON! I hope all is well with everyone and you are enjoying the cooler weather. You are encouraged to continue to shuffle, just get a group to meet on any day. You can put a notice on the Shuffle white board if you want to get a group together. Happy holidays to all!

Try it you will like it! Chuck Bellinger, President

HOA and Social Committee Update

Pat Lucksinger, President, 518-573-0968, Sue Shumyhora, Social Director, 203-615-1043

Our HOA meetings are the third Tuesday of the month from November till April at 7:00 pm at the East Clubhouse.

Notes from the Social Director:

Greetings to the Residents of Serendipity. My name is Sue Shumyhora and I am the acting Social Director until the elections that were held at the HOA meeting in January 2022. I appreciate the warm welcome I have received from many residents! I am excited to announce some new activities and many plans are in the works! Call me if you have any questions, ideas for new events or activities at 203-615-1043.

-Sue


FEBRUARY Calendar of Events (See below for specifics on these events)

Wednesday, Feb 2, 2022	7-9 PM	Big Band Practice	E
Saturday, Feb 5, 2022	7:30AM	Coffee Klatch	E
Wednesday, Feb 9, 2022	7-9 PM	Big Band Practice	E
Saturday, Feb 12, 2022	6:30PM	Valentines Dance with Michael Jayne	E
Sunday, Feb 13, 2022	5:00PM	Super Bowl Party Hosts Robbie/Margaret	E
Tuesday, Feb 15, 2022	6:00PM	Sheriff Guest Speaker	E
Tuesday, Feb 15, 2022	7:00PM	HOA Meeting	E
Wednesday, Feb 16, 2022	7-9 PM	Big Band Practice	E
Wednesday, Feb 23, 2022	7-9 PM	Big Band Practice	E
Saturday, Feb 26, 2022	7:00 PM	Trivia	E

Future Calendar of Events

Friday, March 4, 2022	6:30PM	Soul Sensations	Host Sue Shumyhora	E
Friday, March 11, 2022	9:15A	Last League Bowling	Maple Lanes	
Friday, March 18, 2022	9:15A	Bowling Fun Friday	Maple Lanes	
Saturday, March 19, 2022	5:00PM	Bowling Banquet	Host Bob Jones	TBA
Sunday, March 20, 2022	TBA	Spring Fling	Music by Stan Johnson	E

...continued on page 30



***Please check out our flyers regularly for further information. Sign-up sheets are posted only in the East Clubhouse. Checkout the Facebook Serendipity Homeowners Association Page as information may change.

FEBRUARY EVENTS INFORMATION

Valentine's Dance: with music by Michael Jayne at the East Clubhouse on Saturday, February 12, 2022. The doors open at 6:30 PM and the party is scheduled until 10:00 PM. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Bring your own everything! The sign-up sheet is in the East Clubhouse. Chairperson is Pat Lucksinger, phone 518-573-0968.

NFL Championship Party: Come watch the Big Game at the East Clubhouse on Sunday, February 13, 2022. Bring your own refreshments. This event is hosted by Robbie Robertson and Margaret Ishler.

Special Guest at the HOA Meeting: On Tuesday, February 15, 2022, our guest speaker will be a local Sheriff who will speak to residents about "Scams and Cons Against Seniors". He will speak from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM after which our HOA Meeting will begin.

Trivia: Trivia is BACK! Saturday, February 26, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the East Clubhouse. Please bring \$1.00 to play!

10 O'clock Big Band: This 18-piece big band is practicing in the East clubhouse every Wednesday night in February from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The dates this month are February 2, 9, 16, 23. Masks are required in the clubhouse and social distancing still will be adhered to. You may also make yourself comfortable on the porch. Please clean up your area when done. We hope you will come to listen to the music and have a fun night with friends and your neighbors!

Fun Shuffleboard: Want to join a fun group of residents to play shuffleboard? There's a signup sheet by the west pool shuffleboard closet. Times will be Tuesday and Thursday at 1:00 PM. Watch the bulletin boards and the HOA website for more details. Instructions will be offered for those new to the game and anyone who wants a refresher. Details will follow. Gayle Koeppel at 260 570-3482 for questions

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!** This is good practice even though restrictions have been lifted. Have a good time staying safe and healthy!

****Billiards and Shuffleboard players must be 18 years old to play without adult supervision! ****



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Saturday March 12 **SUNSET DINNER CRUISE ON MARINA JACK II SARASOTA, FL** \$129 per person. Sail on Marina Jack II as we cruise through the inter-coastal waters and the Gulf of Mexico Enjoy a dinner buffet of Carved Prime Rib & Grilled Salmon
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THE CURIOSITY CORNER

by Dennis Buehrle

The Forgotten War



The War of 1812 has often been referred to as the Forgotten War. Some look upon the War of 1812 as the second war against England for our independence. This military conflict started as the result of an accumulation of unacceptable practices by the British towards our merchant ships on the sea, as well as imposed trade restrictions by England and France. The War of 1812 took place during the time Napoleon of France was engaged in his military conquest of Europe, and England was part of a coalition of countries fighting against Napoleon's efforts

to expand his empire.

France and England prohibited neutral countries from trading with the other belligerent countries. The US was becoming quite tired of losing ships or cargo in French controlled ports, or having ships and men pressed into service by England on the high seas, and at times within sight of the port the ship had just left. England's rationale behind the practice of impressment was the belief that British citizens could not become naturalized American citizens, therefore giving them the right to press British born citizens, found on American ships, into the royal navy.

This period in our history had many members of our government promoting different interests. The Federalists desired a close relationship with England while the Democratic-Republicans desired a closer relationship with France. Other members of the government were interested in expanding territorial boundaries, they envisioned a country stretching from one coast to the other, manifest destiny, and there was still some lingering animosity between England and the United States because of the Revolution. The practices by England on the high seas, and their support for North American tribes in the Northwest Territory, only helped feed the lingering animosity towards England and inhibit, according to some individuals, our young country's destiny of westward expansion.

The hawks within our government were clamoring for war. However, many citizens in the Northeastern states did not want war with England. They had fears that the northeastern states would bear most of the physical and financial burdens of the conflict, besides the nation was not prepared to wage war against such a capable military. However, when it became evident that negotiations with England was not going to produce a satisfactory result, President James Madison, on June 1, 1812, sent to Congress a list of grievances, which after four days of debate,

continued on page 34



granted a declaration of war. Madison signed the declaration on June 18, 1812. Ironically, by the time of the news of the declaration of war reached England, almost a month and a half later, the trade restrictions imposed by England had been repealed.

The war presented what was felt, by some, as an excellent opportunity to expand territorial boundaries. Previously Thomas Jefferson apparently once remarked, “The acquisition of Canada will be a mere matter of marching,” an opinion apparently felt by many Americans. England had been preoccupied with Napoleon for some time requiring most of its forces. So, Madison felt that expanding into Canada or capturing it would be a worthwhile first goal. The American invasion army was untrained, poorly led and apparently self-serving. Those planning the invasion also underestimated their enemy and the required logistics. Some state militias refused to even cross the border into Canada, reducing the size of the invading force. Therefore, the army found that invading Canada was not going to be as easy as expected. The Canadian population did not look upon them as liberators, and in a few months the invading American army lost all captured territory, and all of what was then the Michigan territory to the British. The war of conquest had become one of survival.

The army did learn from its mistakes and made changes in leadership; later engagements resulted in several favorable outcomes with a couple stalemates. It became evident that the vast expanse of the territories, and the small size of each army, meant that neither side had enough resources to force a favorable victory. However, our navy did perform better at sea. While the British were able to initiate a semi-tight blockade along the Atlantic coast, American ships won several naval battles and captured several British trade vessels. The American navy demonstrated throughout the war that they were a capable foe. Later however, with the defeat and exile of Napoleon in Europe in April of 1814, England could now send more experienced forces to the conflict in North America.

British ships were sent from Bermuda with troops that landed on the shores of Maryland on August 19, 1814. When it became apparent that Washington D.C. was to be the target, government records were hastily dispersed to various safe locations outside the city. A flag of truce was sent to but ignored by the British. On August 24, 1814, local American forces attacked but were quickly defeated, and as a reprisal the British set ablaze the White House and Capitol building.



Many other government buildings and a newspaper were also destroyed. Residential areas of the city were left intact. The following morning, fires were subdued but buildings destroyed by a large thunderstorm and tornado that ravaged Washington D.C. The tornado apparently killed many on both sides of the conflict, and as a result the British decided to retreat to their ships and leave, occupying Washington for only about 26 hours.

The British forces now decided to move northward to Baltimore. Baltimore had been preparing for such an attack for about a year. Citizens and militia had built defenses all around the city. Baltimore’s inner harbor was also guarded by the imposing Fort McHenry. In early September, Francis Scott Key and John Stuart Skinner set sail aboard the HMS Minden, under a flag of truce, to seek a prisoner exchange. During the negotiations, Key and Skinner overheard war plans discussed by two officers during dinner. The negotiations initially were not fruitful until

...continued on page 37

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they produced letters, written by British prisoners, praising their captures for the kind treatment towards them. The British agreed to the exchange but because Key and Skinner had heard the battle plans, were to remain in custody until after the battle.

On September 13th the British began the bombardment with a barrage of shell and rocket fire. The bombardment lasted for twenty-five hours. On the following morning, after the smoke and fog had cleared, the soldiers lowered the smaller storm flag waving above the fort and raised the much larger garrison flag to show the British that they were still there. Francis Scott Key was so moved by the sight of this symbol of defiance he composed a poem titled "Defense of Fort M'Henry". Later Francis Scott Key's brother-in-law would set the poem to music, which later became known as "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Peace negotiations that had started a month earlier in August, produced The Treaty of Ghent signed on December 24, 1814. News of the treaty, slow to travel, had not reached New Orleans by January 8, 1815, when Andrew Jackson engaged the British outside of New Orleans, resulting in a stunning but unnecessary victory. On February 17, 1815, the Treaty of Ghent was ratified by President Madison officially ending the war.

It can be argued, and seen by many, as a useless war, a war of national pride, and somewhat paradoxical. There were no material or territorial gains by either side. The terms of the peace treaty were *status quo antebellum*, meaning "the way things were before the war." All land reverted to the original owners. The British stopped supporting Native American raiders. The British trade restrictions had been repealed even before the conflict started. The treaty did not address the impressment of sailors, although Britain discontinued the practice after the exile of Napoleon Bonaparte. America had fought its parent country, to an honorable draw, and Britain avoided disaster in North America while defeating France in Europe. Canada gained some proud military bragging rights, and strangely, relations between the three countries generally improved after the war.

Native Americans could be considered the losers in the War of 1812. British promises to the Native Americans, allies of Britain during the war, of recognizing a Native nation in North America, were abandoned during the peace negotiations. Abandoned by the British, without money and weaponry, the Native Americans lost the ability to defend their lands, contributing to the ever-increasing rate of U.S. expansion across the continent.

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<https://www.thoughtco.com/war-hawks-basics-1773402> <https://www.united-states-flag.com/star-spangled-banner.html> <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/brief-overview-war-1812> <https://www.history.com/topics/19th-century/the-star-spangled-banner> <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-story-behind-the-star-spangled-banner-149220970/> <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/primary-sources/james-madison-war-message-congress> <https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofBritain/The-War-of-1812-the-burning-of-the-White-House/>

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Steve and Mary Durina, Lot #381
Randy Mak, Lot #174
Gloria Mitchell, Lot #7
Larry Sullivan, Lot #209

"Sympathy" cards were sent to:

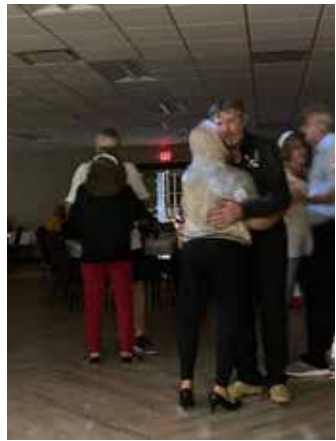
Jane and Mark Gallegos, Lot #101. Their dad, George "Pops" Connors, passed away.
Dave and Sharon Howard, Lot #276. Sharon's brother passed away.
Phyllis Messina, long-time resident at Lot #182. Her husband, Joe passed away
Bev Smith, Lot #296. Bev's husband, Bill passed away. Card was sent to their home in Michigan at 2591 Falcon Woods Dr., Grand Rapids, MI 49534

-Blessings to all! Your Sunshine Gal, Beth

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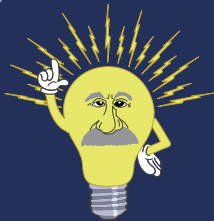
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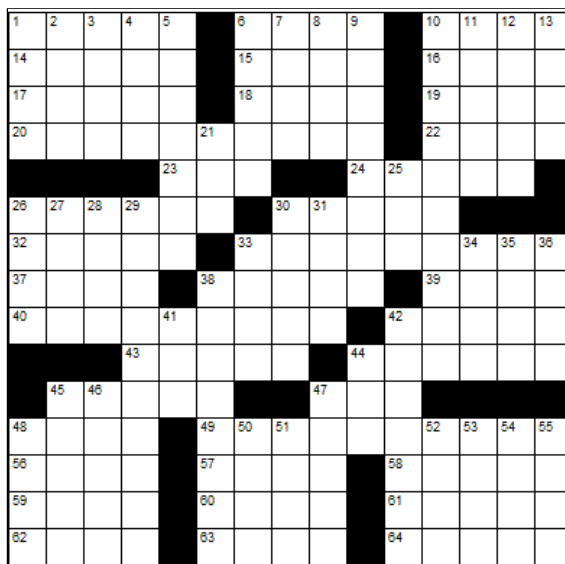
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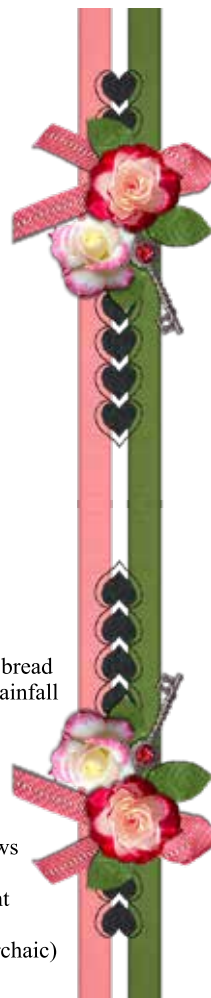
- 1. Type of scarf
- 6. Pear variety
- 10. Drill
- 14. Pale with fright
- 15. Double-reed woodwind
- 16. Mimics
- 17. Allegation
- 18. Break in friendly relations
- 19. To tax or access
- 20. Hard unglazed brownish-red earthenware
- 22. Tall woody plant
- 23. Religious sister
- 24. Swindle
- 26. Palace
- 30. Lance
- 32. Attempt again
- 33. Undertaken by two parties
- 37. Urine component
- 38. Subatomic particle
- 39. Mother
- 40. A sudden downpour
- 42. Ate



- 43. Not cloudy
- 44. Intelligent
- 45. Unpaid
- 47. "The Matrix" hero
- 48. Narrow opening
- 49. Weakens
- 56. Adriatic resort
- 57. Former Italian currency
- 58. Menacing look
- 59. Always
- 60. Smell
- 61. Steed
- 62. Declare untrue
- 63. Marries
- 64. Canvas shelters

DOWN

- 1. Proven information
- 2. Small island
- 3. Blacken
- 4. Inheritor
- 5. Effeminate
- 6. Element with the symbol B
- 7. Death notice
- 8. Not hard
- 9. Whale or dolphin
- 10. Germs in the blood
- 11. A drama set to music
- 12. Adjust again
- 13. Being
- 21. Prompt
- 25. Cap
- 26. Gunk
- 27. Relating to aircraft
- 28. Goulash
- 29. Ephemeral
- 30. Pantywaist
- 31. Conspiracy
- 33. Brought into existence
- 34. Hindu princess
- 35. So be it
- 36. Gentlewoman
- 38. A single storey house
- 41. Small rounded bread
- 42. A shortage of rainfall
- 44. Tall hill
- 45. Drink garnish
- 46. Broaden
- 47. Approaches
- 48. Toboggan
- 50. It ebbs and flows
- 51. Stepped
- 52. Balm ingredient
- 53. Mountain pool
- 54. At one time (archaic)
- 55. Views



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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET - Four Seasons Estates MHP, Largo. Saturday, February 26, 8am-1pm. \$1.00 early bird 7:30. Furniture, clothes, tools, jewelry, linens, books, baked goods, raffles and more. 13225 101st Street, Largo, off Ulmerton (east of Largo Mall).

Carport Sale - Sugar Creek Manufactured Home Park, 10265 Ulmerton Rd, Largo. Saturday, February 12th. 8:00am-1:00pm.

Shady Lane Oaks Bazaar - Shady Lane Oaks - 15777 Bolesta Road, Clearwater. Saturday, February 5th - 9am-2pm. A huge variety of items for sale! Raffles, Chinese auctions, bake sale, breakfast & lunch and more!

East Bay Oaks and Eldorado Village Annual Carport Sale: Saturday, February 19, 2022, 8AM to 2PM. 601 Starkey Rd and 2505 East Bay Dr. Largo, FL 33771

Lake Haven, Park 2 Clubhouse - Treasure Island Annual Community Sale. 1415 Main Street Dunedin - Saturday, Feb 12, 2022, 8am-1pm. Huge Bake Sale and Raffle with 50/50.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

White Elephant & Bake Sale: Sat., March 5, 8am-1pm. Small appliances, furniture, lamps, dishes, linens, jewelry, baked goods and lunch. Lake Highlander Park, 1500 County Road 1, Dunedin.

Carport Sale, Sat., Feb. 26th, Clearwater Cascades MHP, 9790 66th St. N., 8am-12pm.

Oakcrest Acorn Community Carport Sale: March 12th from 9am - 2pm. 9925 Ulmerton Rd and 16th Ave. SE. Furniture, collectibles, tools & lots more.

Doral Village Yard Sale Bazaar, Saturday, February 26th, 8am-1pm. 29250 US Hwy 19N, Clearwater. Furniture, Clothing, Linens, Books, Electronics, Kitchen Items, Glassware, Jewelry, Lunch and Prizes! Masks Recommended!!

Ranch Mobile Park, Park-Wide Yard Sale, Saturday, March 19th, 8:00am-2:00pm at 6800 - 150th Ave. N., Clearwater (Largo).

Carport Sale - February 12th, Rancho Village, Ulmerton Rd. 8am-3pm.

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4. Every month we draw new tickets for **CASH PRIZES** and mail winners a check! **Every month is a new chance to win!**

Advertiser	Name
Advertiser's Signature	Date
Print Name and Last Name (Do not print initials)	Phone Number
Advertiser's Full Billing Address	Print Address

Troy Mooney..... \$100	AMS	John Uline	\$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Joan LaPierre..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Darlene Coburn..... \$10		Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Lynda Morgan..... \$10	Boss Electric	Frank Pittman..... \$5		Air Masters of Pinellas
Marvin Dearing..... \$10	Air Masters of Pinellas	Suzan Grindey..... \$5		Perfect Repair and Construction
Inke Veltman..... \$10	Heller's Mobile Home Washing	Dorothy Marvel..... \$5		Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Linda Laverto..... \$10	Haseney Electric	Dorenda Zimmer..... \$5		BugginOut Pest Control
Joan Hermann..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Evelyn Subrano..... \$5		Debbie's Salon
Christine Lanaway..... \$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control	Arlene Mitchell..... \$5		Jones & Sons Plumbing
Lois Bruzeic..... \$10 ..	Health Markets - Dawn-Rae Crutchfield	Dennis O'Connell..... \$5		Boss Electric
Robert Jacobsen..... \$10	Air Masters of Pinellas	Jim Wisniewski..... \$5		Bill the Carpet Guy
Gail Yetter..... \$10	Discount Computer Repair	Coleen Boudreau..... \$5		Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Bill Steiner..... \$10	Heller's Mobile Home Washing	Dan Lilly..... \$5		Air Masters of Pinellas
Cheryl Dugan..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Eugene StockMaster..... \$5		The Plumbing Patrol
E.R. Vissman..... \$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control	Michael Doucet..... \$5		Jones & Sons Plumbing
Pamela Palanca..... \$10	Bill the Carpet Guy	Pam Hesler..... \$5		BugginOut Pest Control
Shirley Caudill..... \$10	Boss Electric	Jeanette Mullery..... \$5		Bill the Carpet Guy
Margaret Fake..... \$10	Payless Painting	Wayne Rudolph..... \$5		Boss Electric
James Burlton..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Beverly Butters..... \$5		Bill the Carpet Guy
Lee Kozola..... \$10	Air Masters of Pinellas	Shirley Roslan..... \$5		Heller's Mobile Home Washing
Carol Smerker..... \$10	Denny's Plumbing	Betsy Boey..... \$5		Air Masters of Pinellas

• Limit of one ticket per visit • Advertiser may have up to 4 winners per month • Advertiser must have bill paid current to qualify • Allow 8-12 weeks for mailing of check • No purchase necessary • Contest void where prohibited by law • Tickets available at participating Monthly Media advertisers •

February Sudoku

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



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

Park Directory

Bingo.....	Cindy Sharpe.....	336-366-6304
.....	Sue Shumyhora.....	203-615-1043
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.....	727-453-2742
.....	Marge DeMarco.....	727-204-7919
Library.....	Anne Farson.....	813-215-6267
Line Dancing.....	Leslie Bellinger.....	729-5039
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



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35 ★ ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER SERVICES 33

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40 ★ 39