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## **HOA Officers**

President:	John O'Brien	727 4663822
Vice President:	Serena Libby	727 3253693
Secretary:	Sylvia Disotell	727 5879435
Treasurer:		
Ass't Treasurer:	Tammy Tynan	519 7518408
Activities Director:	Tim Sheimo	
Park Office:		727 5852850

## **PARK-WIDE YARD SALE**

e will be having a park-wide yard sale on January 13th and 14th from 8am till 4pm. Got a bunch of stuff for Christmas that you just don't need . . . sell it and make some dough!



## **TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIORS**

Preventional and older. Door-to-door service Courteous drivers

Wheelchair accessible buses

Transportation available to: Medical appointments in Pinellas County - Group grocery shopping (6 or more participants) Group dining, shopping, or fun outings (6 or more participants)

All medical appointments must be within 10 miles of your home, and the trip scheduled at least two business days in advance. Special events require at least 5 days advanced notice. There is no charge for services – donations are accepted. You must register with Neighborly prior to scheduling a ride. Visit neighborly.org or call: (727) 573-9444 for more information - Business Hours: 8am-5pm, Monday - Friday

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





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# MEALS ON WHEELS

I am told that there is a 2 year waiting list for Meals on Wheels. I include this tel number in case someone feels they will need this service in the future. If you think you might, contact them now to get on the list.

# FREE HEALTHCARE – CLEARWATER FREE CLINIC

Since 1977, the Clearwater Free Clinic has provide problem oriented healthcare to low income, uninsured residents of upper Pinellas County by means of office visits, medications, lab work, x-rays and specialty

referrals. The Clinic, a volunteer driven non-profit, non government medical facility, provides primary healthcare at no cost to those who do not qualify for government assistance, and who cannot afford private medical care. 1218 Court St., Clearwater - 727-447-3041

# THINGS TO DO

Central Park Performing Arts Center - Largo

727-587-6793 Largoarts.com 105 Central Park Drive, Largo

### Sunday, January 8 at 2pm

The Kingston Trio - In 1957, The Kingston Trio emerged from San Francisco's club scene to take the country by storm, bringing the rich tradition of American folk music into the mainstream for the first time. The Trio is bringing back all the great memories and making new ones. Hits include "Where Have All the Flowers Gone," "Tom Dooley," and "Goodnight Irene". \$29.50-44.50

## Thursday, January 12th at 7pm

**The Machine Performs Pink Floyd** The Machine, America's top Pink Floyd show, has forged a 20-year reputation of excellence extending the legacy of Pink Floyd while creating another legacy all their own. Known for performing a diverse mix of Pink Floyd's extensive 16-album repertoire, The Machine's stellar musicianship, dramatic lighting, video, and passionate delivery sets them above and beyond the rest.

\$29.50-44.50









AVOID FLORIDA PROBATE COURT ATTENTION: OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS, CANADIAN CITIZENS, AND FLORIDA RESIDENTS

## Steps should be taken to avoid Florida Probate Court on your Florida Home, your Lease and your Park Share.

## Don't leave your family with a legal mess!

CALL 727-587-0009 for your FREE CONSULTATION or if you just have questions.



Attorney Paul Herzfeld 1715 East Bay Drive, Suite C Largo, FL 33771 email: <u>paul@herzfeld.net</u> visit: noflprobate.com

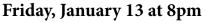


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27-535-0524





**Troubadours Live** is a faithful re-creation of the top-selling tour featuring the music of James Taylor and Carole King. This duo dominated the airwaves and sold tens of millions of records. These stars are two of the greatest singer-songwriters this country has ever produced, with massive hits like "It's Too Late," "So Far Away," "Carolina on My Mind," "Fire & Rain," "I Feel the Earth Move," and "You've Got a Friend".

\$24.50-44.50

#### Friday, January 20 at 8pm

**Classic Seger:** Bob Seger's Greatest Hits Live is a nine-piece band that captures the driving rock 'n' roll spirit that until now could only be experienced at a Bob Seger concert. If you have never been to a 1970's rock 'n' roll show, you owe it to yourself to experience the pure raw power of Classic Seger Live!

\$29.50-39.50

#### Saturday, January 21 at 8pm

Memphis-based, GRAMMY®-nominated **Southern Avenue** inked their first record deal with legendary Stax Records in 2016. The first Memphis band signed to Stax in over 40 years, their self-titled debut was an immediate

phenomenon, reaching #1 on iTunes' "Top Blues Albums" chart before being honored with the 2018 Blues Music Award for "Best Emerging Artist Album." 2019's KEEP ON proved an even greater success, debuting among the top 5 on Billboard's "Top Blues Albums" chart amidst worldwide critical acclaim, ultimately earning Southern Avenue their first GRAMMY® Award nomination, for "Best Contemporary Blues Album".

In addition to the early success that the band has had with their recordings, they have also found a home on the road. The band has performed in 15 countries on three continents and averages over 150 shows in a typical year, making the group one of the most sought-after live performance experiences. Their high-energy shows have captivated audiences around the globe, making this eclectic group a must-see at venues and festivals alike.

#### **Opening act Zach Person:**

American recording artist, Zach Person, is the new face of indie rock. Emerging out of Austin, Texas, Person plays loud, raw, and connects with his music fans on a primal sonic level. Those seeing him for the first time share one thing in common: they are instant, lifelong fans \$14.50 - \$29.50

#### Thursday, January 26 at 7:30pm

**Texas Twister:** A Stevie Ray Vaughan & ZZ Top Tribute Be prepared to be swept away on a musical whirlwind with this salute to the legendary Stevie Ray Vaughan and the incomparable



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## Flanagan's Porch & Windows, Inc. Specialty Aluminum Contractor

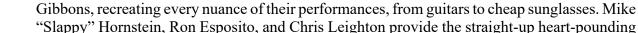
Vinyl, Acrylic & Glass Sunrooms • Impact & Non-Impact Windows & Doors Sun & Screen Rooms • Re-Screening (Patio Enclosures) Vinyl Window Repair/Replacement • Gutter Repair Hurricane Protection • Porch Repairs & More....

## **Call us today for your FREE estimate!**



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percussion that feeds the Texas Twister.

\$24.50-44.50

#### Saturday, January 28 at 11am

**Charlotte's Web** - Based on E.B. White's best-selling children's paperback book of all time, Charlotte's Web tells the story of a pig named Wilbur and his friendship with an extraordinary barn spider named Charlotte. When Wilbur is in danger of a trip to the butcher, Charlotte is determined to save him. This

beautiful, knowing play about friendship, sacrifice, compassion and bravery will weave its way into your heart and leave your audiences totally enchanted.

ZZ Top. Texas Twister founder, Eddie Jelley, is transformed into Stevie Ray Vaughan and Billy

\$8.50, \$7.50 12 and under, \$26 family 4-pack

#### Saturday, January 28 at 8pm

**Once an Outlaw** brings together current and former members of Southern Rock's most famous bands. This alumni show (not a tribute) celebrates the Allman Brothers, Outlaws, and Marshall Tucker Band, to name a few. Members include: Chris Anderson (Outlaws, Grinderswitch), David Goldflies (Allman Brothers), Mike Kach (Dickey Betts Band, Great Southern), Chuck Farrell (Jon Butcher Blues Project), AJ Vallee (Southern Rock All Stars, Peacheaters) and Chris Hicks (Marshall Tucker, Outlaws) (performs when not on tour with Marshall Tucker).

\$19.50-34.50

#### January 13th - 15th

John's Pass Seafood Festival

For the last 41 years, the historic John's Pass Village & Boardwalk in Madeira Beach Florida becomes a venue for a large celebration of fresh gulf seafood, the John's Pass Seafood Festival. The three-day outdoor event features hundreds of local vendors offering a plethora of seafood, an art and crafts show, live music and various family-friendly activities. 12902 Village Blvd, Madeira Beach, FL





#### January 14 - 15th

Located in the "Manatee Capital of the World", **The Florida Manatee Festival** is an annual event held every January in beautiful downtown Crystal River. The festival boasts two days of live entertainment, discounted opportunities for guided manatee boat tours and kayak tours in Kings Bay,







Mondays & Thursdays Pick up at 8:30am Largo Mall

5 Hour Stav

Return by 3:30pm

Must Have Reservation

Airport Transportation Available

**Call Kevin 727-244** 

\$25.00

Trip!



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start to finish was great." C. Wallace **Pinellas County** 

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children's activities, delicious food, and hundreds of vendors selling their wares! Entry is only \$5 for adults and children 12 and under are FREE! Take a look around our site to learn more about all the fun we will have at The Florida Manatee Festival! Www.gomanateefest.com

#### January 25th - 26th

**Gasparilla Pirate Fest** - One of the most popular events in Tampa, Gasparilla is your chance to dress like a pirate and enjoy a variety of pirate-themed celebrations.

You'll find eye patches and colorful attire galore at this event, where Tampa Bay is filled with boats and the streets are filled to the brim with several miles of partygoers. Beware of booming cannons and boisterous buccaneers, as floats, marching bands and pirates make their way down Bayshore Boulevard with glittering beads and treasures. Gasparillapiratefest.com



#### For the Pups

Dog Parks for small and large dogs at Eagle Lake Park, 1800 Keene Rd., Largo **Please remember to pick up after your dogs here in the park.** 



# FIRST FRIDAY

irst Friday was moved to Friday the 9th so this edition was sent to the printer prior to that event.

Also, we have "Butt's Out" every Friday 4:30 at the Clubhouse. Get your butts out of the house and come on over and enjoy great company, music, games and swimming.

## THANKSGIVING

W e had 25 residents and guests at the Clubhouse for Thanksgiving. Everyone enjoyed turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, green bean casserole, squash, Tim Bier's famous Ghiradelli Brownies and lots of yummy pies. Thanks to Tim Bier, Cheryl Glueck, and everyone who helped cook, set up and clean up. Everyone who helps out at the Shangri La events are so much appreciated.

## JOKE

circus owner runs an ad for a lion tamer and two people show up. One is a retired Cowboy in his late sixties and the other is a gorgeous young woman in her mid-twenties. The circus owner tells them, "I'm not going to sugar coat it. This is one ferocious lion. He ate my last tamer so you two had better be good or you're history. Here's your equipment -- chair, whip and a gun. Who wants to try out first?"

The woman says, "I'll go first." She walks past the chair, the whip and the gun and steps right into the lion's cage. The lion starts to snarl and pant

and begins to charge her. About halfway there, she throws open her coat revealing her beautiful naked body. The lion stops dead in his tracks, sheepishly crawls up to her and starts licking her feet and ankles. He continues to lick and kiss her for several minutes and then rests his head at her feet. The circus owner's jaw is on the floor. He says, "I've never seen a display like that in my life." He then turns to the retired Cowboy and asks, "Can you top that?"

The tough old Cowboy replies, "You bet. Just get that lion out of there."

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## **CLEANING TIP:**

In the newsletters. Just some things I've figured out to make cleaning jobs a lot easier. As well as products (mostly from Dollar Tree) that I find work really well.

**Best Vacuum** – I think - If you're in the market for a vacuum, there are a few different choices ranging from under \$100 to over \$400. Your low end is going to be a dirt devil. These are okay for a small space, mainly flooring and not carpet. So, great, this is a cheapo vacuum that'll be fine for my small home. Yup, till the vac dies the day after the warrantly ends. (true story) Then you've got your Bissell vacuums. These aren't bad, again for a small home. However, they don't make it easy to clean corners, along the baseboards, etc. Most are just a basic upright vacuum. Then there's my favorites. The Shark Vacuums. These run from about \$150 - \$190 and they are a great vacuum for the money.



Bonus, Shark will replace the vacuum for FREE if it dies, or any part of it dies. I've sent back two and received new ones without question. I did not mention that I clean houses for a living and am vacuuming eight houses a week with the thing. Ooops. The handles on the Shark vacs come out so you can clean the baseboards and corners quickly and easily. And finally, the Dyson vacuums. These vacs are uber expensive, like \$400, and although they have good suction, like the commercial says, they are unwieldy as heck to use. They are just stupid awkward. And as far as cordless vacuums go, including the Sharks, most are uncomfortable when you're using them for any length of time. The weight is up at the end of the handle, so your shoulder gets beat up. Nice for getting under furniture, but batteries don't last super long and they're suction is metsa-metsa. Also, when looking at vacs, take the size of the dust cup into consideration. If you have pets that shed, or just a lot of dirt, you want a larger dust cup so you don't have to empty the thing five times while you do the whole house. So, basically, if the hubs got you a Dyson for Christmas, return that thing, get a Shark and then spend the rest of the money on clothes and shoes.





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Kangaroos can't walk backwards?

Sea Lions are the only animals that can clap to a beat?

A blue whale's heart can weigh upto 400 pounds! That is about 640 times heavier than a human heart?

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# **Services Directory**

#### AIR CONDITIONING SALES/SERVICE

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E & E Gliddon. Inc	727-546-4343
Modern A/C Service Co.	727-541-5541
APPLIANCE REPAIR	
Rick's Appliance Repair	777 637 4780
AUTO BUY/SELL	121-031-4109
Bill Your Car Guy	707 700 0000
Bill Your Car Guy	121-129-2322
Stingrays Inc (CASH NOW)	/2/-/98-2921
AUTO REPAIR	
All-Rite Auto Body Largo Automotive Repair, Inc	727-585-7158
Largo Automotive Repair, Inc.	727-584-0166
AWNINGS	
Bay Area Aluminum Services, Inc	727-585-4442
Century Awnings Co.	727 550 8811
ATTORNEY	121-339-0011
	707 507 0000
Law Offices of Paul Herzfeld	/2/-58/-0009
BLINDS & DRAPERIES	
Rod Runners	727-394-9534
CAR RENTAL	
Gulf Rent-A-Car	727-446-2855
CARPET CLEANING	
Bill the Carpet Guy	727-521-4163
Doll Brothers Carpet/Upholstery Clnrs.	727 506 22/0
CLEANING/INTERIOR	121-590-2249
	774 005 4005
Got Dirt? Call Dirty lil	//4-225-1225
DERMATOLOGIST	
Florida Dermatology & Skin Cancer	727-548-9196
DOCTOR - INTERNAL MEDICINE	
Dedicated Senior Medical	727-914-9000
Suncoast Family Medical Assoc	727-588-9572
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KITCHEN CABINET REFACING	
Swailes Re-Face It, LLC	. /2/-804-1689
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All Weather Rooling	-800-297-3758 . 727-471-0820
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# JANUARY•2023

Sunday	Monday	Г
1 New Year's Day	2 Cornhole At the Clubhouse 4pm	Bingo - open at at 7pm
8	9 Cornhole At the Clubhouse 4pm	Bingo - open af at 7pm
15	16 Cornhole At the Clubhouse 4pm Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Bingo - open af at 7pm
22	23 Cornhole At the Clubhouse 4pm	Bingo - open at at 7pm Happy Mike N Lot 62
29	30 Cornhole At the Clubhouse 4pm	Bingo - open af at 7pm

# Shangri La Star

	1 1			
uesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 - Doors t 6:30, Starts	4	5 Shuffleboard at 1pm HOA meeting 6pm Happy Birthday! Gary Deutshman Lot 94	6 First Friday – Food & Fun at the Club- house 4:30 Epiphany	7
10 - Doors t 6:30, Starts	11	12 Shuffleboard at 1pm	13 Butt's Out 4:30 at the Clubhouse	14
17 - Doors t 6:30, Starts	18	19 Shuffleboard at 1pm	20 Butt's Out 4:30 at the Clubhouse	21 Happy Birthday! Mike Christian Lot 61
24 - Doors t 6:30, Starts Birthday! Iuldrew	25	26 Shuffleboard at 1pm	27 Butt's Out 4:30 at the Clubhouse	28
31 - Doors t 6:30, Starts				S       M       FEBRUARY T       W       T       F       S         1       2       3       4         5       6       7       8       9       10       11         12       13       14       15       16       17       18         19       20       21       22       23       24       25         26       27       28

## **RECIPE: BAKED CORN CASSEROLE**

1 can (10 1/2 ounces) Campbell's Condensed Cream of Chicken Soup 1/2 cup reduced fat (2%) milk 2 eggs

1 can (about 16 ounces) whole kernel corn, drained

1 package (8 ounces) corn muffin mix

1/4 cup Parmesan cheese

1 can (2.8 ounces) French fried onions (about 1 1/3 cups)

Heat the oven to  $350^{\circ}$ F. Beat the soup, milk and eggs in a medium bowl with a fork or whisk. Stir in the corn, corn muffin mix, cheese, and 2/3 cup onions. Pour the soup mixture into a 1 1/2-quart casserole. Bake for 30 minutes or until the mixture is hot. Top with the remaining onions and bake for 5 minutes or until the onions are golden brown.

## DAY TRIPPIN' ~ COW CAMP – LAKE KISSIMEE STATE PARK

ake Wales – There is a moment when distant boat motors fall silent. Traffic thrumming has dissolved. Somewhere a cicada rattles, startling a wary visitor. A breath of a breeze meanders an oak stand and gray wisps of Spanish moss sway from twisting limbs. On a dirt path, footprints leave the unmistakable pattern of a 21st century running shoe. But... wait. Where did the tracks go? Did those who made them vanish like phantoms misting into the forest? Or perhaps the visitor has crossed some murky boundary in time... Two quick cracks slap the visitor's reverie. A pistol? Then the path opens into a clearing. A man whirls a 10-foot whip around his head, casts the lash and pumps an arm. The whip blasts like a gunshot. Sometimes called a "drag," the whip is the signature tool of a Florida cowman, and its air-splitting pop is the sound of the cracker – the folkloric figure who built the state's cattle industry on the roughand-tumble, 19th century Florida frontier. The drivers used whips not to hit the scrawny scrub cattle, but to control them on drives with the noise of the lash. Tough dogs called "leopard curs" sniffed out cattle lost in the scrub and chased them back to the herd. To visit the 1876 cow camp at Lake Kissimmee State Park is to travel in time. Everything about the camp is authentic, including the persona of the whip-wielding cowman. Inside a log fence lounge a dozen head of cattle, descendants of Andalusians originally brought by the Spanish five centuries ago. Nearby rests a smallish cow pony, a quick and nimble beast the Crackers call a "marshtackie." Water from an old-fashioned pump follows grooved log "pipes" into a wooden trough for the cattle. The cowman's name is Grazer, a name he says he adopted because he likes to eat. He says he continued on page 27





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works for Jake Summerlin, cattle baron and "King of the Crackers" during the 1800s. Pay's a dollar a day, and that's good wages, Grazer says, enough for a fine time in Tater Hill Bluff, a rough-and-ready cow town that eventually was renamed **Arcadia**. Grazer is quick to note Florida does not have cowboys. They are called cow hunters or cowmen. "Some people compare us to cowboys, but we sent all our boys to Texas," he says. Florida's history of cattle drives and cow towns often surprises visitors accustomed to linking the state

with beaches and theme parks. After conquistadors brought Andalusians, making Florida the first cattle-raising state, Spanish missionaries began keeping herds. Later, Seminoles became large-scale cattlemen. Settlers raised beef and built ranches, sometimes with herds up to 50,000. During the Civil War, Florida supplied beef to the Confederate Army. As in Old West mythology, Florida saw huge cattle drives and desperate rustlers. In the 21st century, the state consistently ranks high in beef production and is among the top three or four most productive beef states east of the Mississippi River. Grazer keeps a piece of the old way alive. He sleeps in a chickee, a shelter with no walls and a palmetto-thatched roof. Coffee brews over an oak-log campfire constantly burning. Its smoke is a natural mosquito repellant, especially with a handful of dry cow paddies on the fire. "Skeeters won't bother me all night," Grazer says, "and nobody in that saloon in Tater Hill Bluff will bother me none, either." If no time-traveling visitors are nearby, Grazer will engage in a 21st century chat. He is one of five park rangers who portray the 19th century cow hunter. His real name is Mark Koruschak, and he has been stepping into the past for five years. He also spins tales at Cracker storytelling festivals. "But I have a lot of fun doing the cow camp," he says. "I've learned a lot of history just by being here." If You Go Where: Lake Kissimmee State Park, 14248 Camp Mack Road. The park is off State Road 60 15 miles east of Lake Wales. Hours: The cow camp is open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Saturday, Sunday and holidays (except Christmas) from Oct. 1 through May 1. The park itself is open 365 days a year, 8 a.m. until sundown. Fees: The cow camp is free. Admission to the park is \$5 per vehicle with two to eight people per vehicle, \$4 for a single-occupant vehicle and \$2 for pedestrians, bicyclists, extra passengers and passengers in vehicle with holder of an annual individual entrance pass.

Information: Call 863-696-1112 or visit floridastateparks.org/lakekissimmee.



# **MANATEES IN CRYSTAL RIVER**

nce the Gulf of Mexico water temperatures drop to a chilly 68°F, Florida manatees flock to Crystal River on Florida's Nature Coast. This iconic species gathers in the 72-degree warmth of the Idiot's Delight Springs, located at the mouth of the Three Sisters Spring Run in the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge. On the colder days between November and March, an average of 60-70 manatees can be found in this springs area. During one cold



snap in 2014, over 300 manatees arrived to check-in to the warm waters of these idyllic natural freshwater springs. A majority of these visiting manatees prefer the open, but secluded lagoon at the mouth of the Three Sister's Run. Many slide their grey, torpedo-shaped bodies past the metal pilings at the mouth of the run. Their powerful back flippers moving up and down to propel their hefty bodies through the narrow canal into the turquoise waters of the Three Sister's Springs complex. A safety line keeps people and vessels out of the Idiots Delight spring, but the pilings were built in 1982 to keep all motorized vessels from accessing the three spring-fed lagoons within. It's no wonder the manatees choose this area to ride out the cold winter days. The clear, yet shallow waters hold the heat from the natural springs and the nearby seagrasses and other aquatic vegetation provide much-needed substance for their survival. Florida manatees, a subspecies of the West Indian Manatee, range in size from a 60 lb. newborn to adults weighing in at over a ton! Also known as "sea cows," they often spend up to 8 hours a day grazing, like cows in a pasture. At the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge, the manatee is king. Visitors arrive from around the world to walk the boardwalk around the Three Sister's Springs hoping for a glimpse of a manatee in the crystal-clear waters or to "swim with manatees" with a local dive tour company. But this was not always the case in the Three Sister's Springs complex. Through the efforts of the Friends of Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge, the Three Sister's Springs and 57 surrounding acres were rescued from threatened development. In 2010, the land was purchased in a joint effort by the City of Crystal River, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Florida Community Trust, Southwest Florida Water Management District, several local groups, and philanthropists. With the land saved, there was much work to do. The banks around the springs were severely eroded. The water appeared dark and muddy, a result of stormwater runoff and debris from past storms. Trees had fallen over into the water, hindering manatee access to the springs. Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) set a restoration plan into effect. They cleared the water and stabilized the banks with limestone boulders and soil bags, seeded with native wetland flora. Invasive plants were removed, and native trees and plants reintroduced. Through much effort and time, the springs area was transformed into a beautiful paradise, abundant with native plants to draw in local and visiting wildlife. Manatees frolic in the clear turquoise spring waters of their clean sanctuary and these slow-moving gentle giants return year after year to winter in the refuge. With the Springs restoration complete, SWFWMD continued on page 31

# **SUB-FLOOR & FLOORING EXPERTS!**

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tackled the issue of stormwater runoff into Crystal River. Like Gainesville's Sweetwater Wetland's Park and Ocala's Recharge Park, they created a natural filtration system to filter the stormwater. A one-acre lake was filled to make a hydric hammock, lush with giant bullrush, sawgrass, red maples, and bald cypress. The wetland area acts like a human kidney, naturally filtering the stormwater as it runs through the hammock before entering Crystal River.

## FLORIDA'S ARCHEOLOGICAL CANOES

lorida is the boating capital of the United States: In 2016, the state had more registered recreational boats than any other. But for archaeologists



for the state's Division of Historical Resources, that nautical achievement is only the modern iteration of a history that goes back more than 6,000 years. Florida has always been a capital for watercraft and boating. More impressive than the state's current boating record is its archaeological one. Florida has the highest concentration of archaeological dugout canoes of anywhere in the world-more than 400 wooden boats that show how early Floridians navigated our rivers like highways. The most recent addition to that collection is a battered canoe spotted by a photographer out for a bike ride following Hurricane Irma in September. It has not yet been officially dated, but this newly discovered dugout — a canoe made from a single, hollowed-out log-has metal nails and other features that indicate it's anywhere from a few decades to centuries old. For a Florida dugout, though, that's not a particularly impressive age. Of the canoes in the state's database, almost three-quarters are considered prehistoric, meaning that they were made before 1513, when Juan Ponce de Léon first documented his experiences on the peninsula. The earliest canoe ever found in the state is close to 7,000 years old. These dugout canoes turn up so often in Florida, in part, because the state is covered with expanses of peatland, wet and boggy soil where organic material decays slowly. Sunk in the muck, locked away from oxygen, wooden canoes can last for thousands of years with relatively little damage. Most often, they reemerge in times of drought, when the level of lakes and other waterways drop away. When the locations of all the dugouts discovered in Florida are mapped, two concentrations stand out - Newnans Lake and another in the north central highlands. This suggests that people were purposefully caching canoes in certain places. In other words, these canoe concentrations could represent nodes in an extensive transportation network that would have allowed people to travel efficiently over long distances. The largest cache of prehistoric dugout canoes found in Florida - most likely the largest cache of such boats anywhere in the world-appeared in 2000 on the shore of Newnans Lake, near Gainesville. That year, a severe drought had lowered the lake's level, and hikers and bird watchers started spotting boats on the new shoreline. State archaeologists who documented the finds later wrote, "Every additional search revealed the remains of more canoes." Sometimes, they'd be excavating a newly discovered canoe, and would reveal a few more in the process. In the end, they found 101 dugouts, the oldest dating back to 5,000 years ago.

## **MERMAIDS SAVE DIVER**

fairytale rescue saved an experienced diver from drowning when a trio of mermaids suddenly showed up off Catalina Island in California. Pablo Avila lost consciousness while scuba diving with his son and a friend on Oct. 23, which coinsided with the second day of a mermaid training course nearby. A 33-yearold mermaid performer and diver from Miami who was leading the certified diving course in open water jumped into action when they all heard calls for help. Elle Jimenez and two of her students, all donning their mermaid fins, used their training—and their tails to speedily take control of the situation. Mermaid student Elaina



Marie Garcia, a certified diver who also works as a firefighter, said Mr. Avila was foaming at the mouth and unconscious by the time they reached him. The mermaid pod quickly removed his heavy dive gear, which can weigh 30 to 40 pounds, and underwater weights that can add another 35lbs. "I gave him rescue breaths in the water," Garcia told Fox News. "My training kicked in, and I had the muscle memory I needed to get his scuba gear quickly and efficiently off." "I think we were all meant for these roles and that moment proved we were exactly where we needed to be," said Jimenez. They also coached a second diver to use breathing techniques to calm him when he was panicking and in distress. Garcia was thrilled that Mr. Avila survived, saying she believed "it's rare to come back from needing full CPR to breathing, talking and smiling." They hope the story spreads the word that "mermaiding" takes athleticism, above all. "It's not just pretty tails and smiles, but we can save lives, too ... with grace."





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# **ANNIE OAKLEY**

n August 13, 1860, Annie Oakley (Phoebe Ann Moses) was born in a primitive log cabin near North Star, in Darke County, Ohio. The times during lil'Phoebe Anne's childhood in the Buckeye State have been described by one author as being "a time of scarcity, loss and immense adversity," being that her beloved father died when she was five. A hardworking farmer, he succumbed to complications from exposure during a terrible surprise snow storm. Out of necessity, Annie learned to hunt and shoot at a very early age (perhaps around eight years old); and, with her new found skills, she helped support her mother and siblings. She was so proficient with hunting, in fact, that there was usually a surplus of fresh meat. Therefore,



her mother started selling her overflow of pheasant, quail, rabbit, squirrel, and other game to local markets. Annie easily won her first shooting match at 15 years of age. The truth of the matter is that she was a dead-eye with a rifle or pistol from a very early age. In 1885, Annie was invited to join Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World spectacular where she was eventually given a nickname, "Watanya Cicilla" (Little Sure Shot) by the great Sitting Bull (1831-1890), a Hunkpapa Lakota leader, who performed briefly with the traveling western show. The nickname stuck for the rest of Annie's life. From the beginning, Annie was accepted by the crowds and considered one of the main attractions of the show, even out-shooting the legendary Buffalo Bill on many occasions. During her time with Buffalo Bill, Annie Oakley grew in fame and was world renowned during the post-feud years, and she was likely an admired celebrity in the eyes of McCoys and Hatfields, and most other Appalachians during the era. This image, a 1922 photograph, shows Annie at age 62 (still an incredible rifle shot and performer, mostly attending exhibitions and fundraisers by this period). Sadly, Little Sure Shot passed on Nov. 3, 1926.



# **SNOW IN FLORIDA?**

t be might cold outside, but it's not "Orlando 1977" cold. A message traced out of the thin layer of "white stuff" fallen on the hood of a car from 1977 perhaps captured the temperature of Jan. 19 the best "Brrr!" On this day 45 years ago Orlandoans woke up to an Arctic front and frigid conditions cold enough to produce a miraculous phenomenon — snow in Florida. A strong cold front moved rapidly down the Florida peninsula Jan. 18 and through the dark early hours of Jan. 19. Down south, rain mixed with snow and fell as snow flurries across Broward and Miami-Dade counties between 8:00 and 9:30 a.m., according to the National Weather Service. It was the first time snow had fallen in South Florida in recorded history. Central Florida recorded a trace of the white stuff, which gathered on surfaces, while Plant City measured 2 inches of snow.



Orlando residents were stunned but weren't frozen in place as snow gathered on the surface of the Sunshine State. Rather, they acted in ways they've seen northern neighbors behave in movies by tracing snow flurries on cars, rolling up snowballs and firing them at a delighted enemy. Jan. 19, 1977 turned Florida into a winter wonderland felt throughout the state. The front page headline of the now defunct Miami News captured the surprise of many Floridians: "Snow in Miami!" Orlando's high reached 47 degrees — the second-coldest afternoon high temperature in the city's history, according to the National Weather Service. The coldest day in Orlando's history occurred decades earlier when temperatures dropped to 18 degrees in 1894. As for snow, snow flurries have been seen in northern Florida as recent as 2017, but 1977 on average was recorded as one of the coldest years in the United States, according to The Weather Channel. While the arrival of snowflakes brought wonder and happiness to most, the presence of a colder climate was not good news for all in Central Florida; namely farmers. Winter Haven received 2 inches of snow much to the dismay of growers who reported 35% of Florida's citrus crops being damaged, according to The Weather Channel. On Jan. 21, 1977, the same day that President Jimmy Carter took office, the Sentinel Star's front page broke the news that the orange loss was estimated at 50 million boxes - roughly one-fourth of the estimated crop for that season. Rolling blackouts were reported as Florida's electrical grid was stretched to the limit with residents pushing their heaters' potential output to the max. Temperatures dropped further on Jan. 20 with a second front that brought colder temperatures bringing Orlando down to a low of 20 degrees.





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## **BELLAIR COUNTRY CLUB – SINCE 1897**

drove by this course today and was surprised to see it was established in 1897. I was under the impression that this area was farms and orchards at the time. If I am boring y'all to death with historical



information, please feel free to email me at shangrilalargo@gmail.com with suggestions for these newsletters. I'm happy to oblige.

The grand tradition of Belleair Country Club golf began over a hundred years ago when Henry Bradley Plant, founder of the Plant system of railroads and Steamboats selected this site to construct a winter golf resort in 1897. He had six holes built with elevated greens, the surfaces of which were crushed seashells. Those six holes, no longer in existence, were located on the Club's West Course in the general area of holes #1, 2 3 and 18. At that time, the fairways were rough with indigenous grass, as it was assumed that sophisticated grasses could not be grown in Florida. By 1899, under the guidance of Joseph J. Eldridge, the layout had expanded to nine holes and the greens had been "upgraded" to sand surfaces. On June 23, 1899, Henry Plant died, leaving his son, Morton F. Plant, to complete the dream he had started. Morton Plant succeeded in completing his father's dream, and more. Morton began experimenting with topsoil, grasses and fertilizers, refusing to accept the notion that better golf course grasses could not be grown successfully in Florida. He went so far as to have several railroad cars full of rich Indiana topsoil brought to Belleair. Morton Plant laid the foundation for the rich and lush appearance of the Belleair Country Club's golf courses as they are today. In fact, it has been observed that the Club's grass greens were the first in the South. During 1909, the West Golf Course grew to eighteen holes and by 1915, to thirty-six holes, implementing the design of the popular and brilliant golf course architect, Donald J. Ross. Today's layouts are essentially as Ross designed them, although the sequence of holes has changed. #4 West was elevated and entirely surrounded by a sand moat, with the putting surface accessible by stepladder. Although the fairways and greens have been sculpted and refined, #4 West remains as it was originally designed by Donald J. Ross, without the use of a stepladder.



#### ACROSS

- 1. Poplar variety
- 6. Select by voting
- 11. Depart
- 12. Illness
- 15. Victor
- 16. Differs in opinion
- 17. American Medical
- Association
- 18. Noteworthy
- 20. Martini ingredient
- 21. Infinitesimal amount
- 23. Regulation
- 24. Heredity unit
- 25. Pretentious person
- 26. Musical phrase
- 27. Blow a car horn
- 28. Apprentice
- 29. Play a role
- 30. Parental sisters
- 31. Lovelorn
- 34. They connect points
- 36. Before, in poetry
- 37. Chooses
- 41. Prefix meaning "Within"
- 42. Russian emperor
- 43. Entice
- 44. Rodents
- 45. A gathering or event
- 46. Winglike
- 47. Big fuss
- 48. Museum wing
- 51. 54 in Roman numerals
- 52. Related to unskilled tasks
- 54. First-aid item
- 56. Exact
- 57. Pilotless plane
- 58. Discourage
- 59. Durable fabric

#### 12 16 17 26 29 32 36 43 41 42 46 45 47 49 52 54 55 57 58 59

#### DOWN

- 1. Payment to an ex
- 2. Legislator
- 3. Greek god of flocks
- 4. Smooth or level
- 5. Adopted son of
- Claudius
- 6. Safe to eat
- 7. Fine thread
- 8. Being
- 9. C
- 10. Trigonometric
- function
- 13. Smells 14. Slave

- 15. Midsection
- 16. Fearlessly
- 19. Ceasefire
- 22. Teems
- 24. Venetian boat
- 26. Chits 27. Color
- 30. Affirm
- 32. Modern
- 33. Give a speech
- 34. A person who rules
- 35. Chanted

- 38. Tugging
- 39. Rookie
- 40. Wait on
  - 42. Bank employee
  - 44. Wheelchair access
  - 45. Untrue
  - 48. Person's manner of
  - walking
  - 49. Disposes
  - 50. Bygone era
  - 53. Frozen water
  - 55. Dung beetle







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#### **EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

Largest Garage Sale in southwest Florida! Northwood Presbyterian Church, 2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761 will hold a gigantic sale on January 13th and 14th, 2023 from 8:00am-2:00pm. There will be something for everyone. Contact Susan Curry 727-709-8237 for information.

Annual Flea Market – Four Seasons Estates MHP clubhouse, Largo. Saturday, February 25, 8am-1pm. \$1.00 early bird 7:30. Furniture, clothes, tools, jewelry, linens, kitchen, books, raffles and more. 13225 101st Street, off Ulmerton (east of Largo Mall).

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**EVENTS & PROGRAMS** 

**EVENTS & PROGRAMS** 

1st Annual Art show and Sale. Lincolnshire estates. Original Art work and crafts on dipaly and for sale by local artists. 1071 Donegan Rd. Largo Fl. 33771. Friday January 6 Noon - 6 PM

East Bay Oaks and Eldorado Village Annual Parkwide Carport Sale Saturday February 4 and Sunday February 5, 2023 from 8 AM to 2:30 PM both days. 601 Starkey Rd, Largo, FL 33771 And 2505 East Bay Dr, Largo, FL 33771

Point West MHP Annual Bazaar and Flea Market. January 28th, 8am to 2pm. 12651 Seminole Blvd., Largo. Furniture, clothes, household, jewelry, electronics, and misc. Chinese Auction. 50/50 and food.

Embassy Mobile Park, Park Wide Yard Sale, Saturday, January 14th, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 16416 US Highway 19 N, Clearwater (Largo).

East Bay Oaks and Eldorado Village Annual Parkwide Carport Sale Saturday February 4 and Sunday February 5, 2023 from 8 AM to 2:30 PM both days. 601 Starkey Rd, Largo, FL 33771 And 2505 East Bay Dr, Largo, FL 33771 Caribbean Isle MHP Rummage and Craft Sale. 12100 Seminole Blvd. Clubhouse. Jan. 28,2023. 9am-2pm. Food available.

BINGO Lake Seminole Resort - 10245 110th Ave. - Largo. Monday, Jan 9th, 2023. Bingo starts @ 6:50 pm. Doors open at 5:3 0pm. Cards on sale until 6:30 pm.

Annual Rummage Sale - Saturday, January 21st, 2023. 8am-12pm. Boca Ciega Mobile Home Park Clubhouse and outside. Lunch is available. 11200 Walshingham Rd. Largo, 33778.

Pre-Demolition Sale, 9 to 1 Sunday Jan. 15th. Golden Acres 1040 Main St., Dunedin, FL. House located off "B" Court, Kitchen cabinets, refrigerator, microwave, bathroom vanity, light fixtures, ceiling fans, Many other numerous items. Bids will be taken. Any questions call Paula 508-826-1562 after Jan. 6th.

Lincolnshire Estates Annual Bazaar is back Saturday Feb 4, 8AM to 1 PM 1071 Donegan Road, Largo furniture, tools, jewelry, housewares, bake sale, nick-nacks linens, appliances, silent auction, breakfast and lunch served.

## **FEBRUARY AD DEADLINE - JANUARY 10, 2023**

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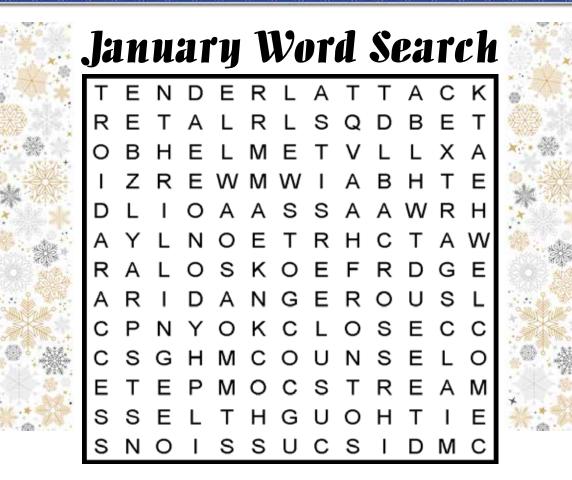
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