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August • 2023

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47th Year**

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FORECASTER EDITOR: Ray Rodriguez, ACForecaster@gmail.com, 248-496-2411

FORECASTER DELIVERY COORDINATOR: Kathy Williams 317-441-5995 & Pam Paige 480-236-6358v

CALENDAR: Joan Miller, msguyneth@aol.com, 302-382-2292

SUNSHINE LADY: Cindy Peacock, mrcindypeacock@yahoo.com, 702-595-3603

WELCOME COMMITTEE: Mary Ann Meljac, maryannmeljac@gmail.com, 727-798-0261

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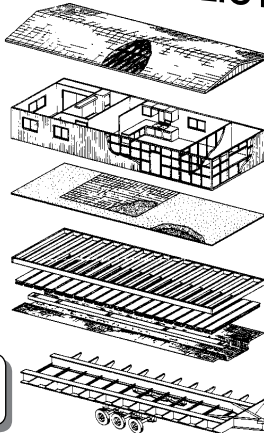
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From the Manager's Desk:

Vita Blough



MANAGER

I hope all of you are enjoying this lovely Summer and have your schedules filled up with cool and fun activities to make the most of the sunny days.

I just marked a one month milestone working at Americana Cove and I would like to share some of the highlights with you:

I had a chance to meet many of the owners and address issues some of you have: account balance questions, property improvements and general questions and inquiries. I am always happy to hear from any owner and I encourage you to reach out and share your feedback, concerns, and suggestions. My email is Vita.Blough@americanacove.com

As an experienced property manager I recognize that my duty is to maintain property values by ensuring an upkeep of the grounds, curb appeal of homes and making sure that all owners understand and comply with community rules and regulations and aesthetics guidelines.

Therefore irrigation system repairs were on my immediate “to do” list. I have met with several well specialists, studied inspection reports and compared proposals. Board has approved Citrus Wells to start well pump repair project after Board members were presented 3 proposals for their consideration. This project will be gradual: priority is to fix 3 well pumps on North side first and then continue overall system improvements following Citrus Wells specialist recommendations. I really hope that after the rainy season is over we will be fully capable to maintain green lawns by ensuring they are watered properly.

I have also had a chance to personally meet with owners and address some of the most common rule violations that directly impact overall property appeal. Such violations include clutter around the house, unmanicured flower beds, golf carts, boats or cars parked on the grass and bushes or trees growing into neighbor houses. My goal is to communicate with each and every owner to make them understand that the effort needs to be put into upkeep of the community and that rules are created to ensure everyone gets to live in a welcoming and clean environment.

Taking this opportunity I would like to tell you about two committees and invite you to sign up for:

- **Fine Appeals Committee.** Florida Statute has established a very specific violation and fine process to ensure that Association Boards use violation and fines process to get owner compliance with Association’s Governing Documents. Fine Appeals Committee members cannot be affiliated with the Board in any way – be it relative, spouse, child or even living in the same household as Board members. Once the Board levies a fine, owner is given a proper notice and a chance to appeal it at the Fine Appeals Committee meeting. Board will be appointing Committee Members at July 19th meeting – please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions and are interested in joining a committee.

...continued on page 6



- **Planning Committee.** This Committee will have many important tasks at hand in the next two to three years as Board is working on creating a proactive reserve spending schedule on the projects that are needed to be done in the community to curtail the deterioration of common elements and prevent large repair expenditures. One of the examples are sewer pipes. Americana Cove still has original sewer pipes in some areas that are deteriorating due to the age, materials used (clay) and tree roots growing into pipes. We also are looking at the boat ramp repairs, seawall repairs, Clubhouse improvements – the list goes on. It would be great to engage many talented owners who live here – engineers, architects, contractors – who would be able to work on prioritizing these projects and make recommendations to the Finance Committee and the Board on any future capital improvements.

Please do not hesitate to reach me with any questions you may have – working together we can ensure that we create the best community for everyone to enjoy.

Warm Regards,
Vita

President's Message

By Kathy Wichmann



Being a Board Member can be a difficult and thankless job. You perform your board function for the benefit of the association and its members. You must work as a fiduciary to protect the assets of the association. You are placed in a position of trust and authority. At any given time, your decisions to protect the association may be in conflict with the demands of your neighbors and friends.

One of the jobs to be performed is to approve the applications of your neighbors when they, too, want to live in Americana Cove, a premiere 55+ community. I have been very driven to follow the rules established by Americana Cove and previous boards. The rules to move here are quite simple. You must be 55 or older, not have a felony conviction, and have a credit score of 675.

The first two seem to not be an issue with most people, but, how do credit scores work? One simple number, ranging from 300 to 850, can have a big impact on your finances which tells us if you will be able to pay your bills within Americana Cove. A good credit score makes you more likely to be approved for credit accounts, get better interest rates and even secure lower auto insurance premiums. What is the difference between a credit score and a credit report? The three digit FICO score is a calculation based on the detailed information within your credit report. The three nationwide credit bureaus each track the credit histories of all Americans and you have the right to a free copy of your credit report from each of those three bureaus every year.

What doesn't affect your credit score? Your income, savings or investment balances, using debit or prepaid cards, traffic tickets, and bills such as utilities and rent that are not considered credit accounts. However, if one of those utility bills or rent payments become delinquent and gets turned over to a collection agency, that can show up on your credit report and affect your FICO score.



How is your credit score calculated? There are five factors that make up your score. The largest factor is your payment history which accounts for 35% of the FICO score. Pay your loan and credit card bills on time even if you can only afford the minimum because consistency is what matters with the payment history. Secondly, 30% of the FICO score is based on the amounts you owe. You need to pay attention to the amount of debt you carry compared to the amount of credit you have available. 15% of the score is based on the length of your credit history. It's recommended to establish your credit early and consider keeping your oldest accounts open provided they don't charge you fees for the credit account. New credit and credit mix both make up 10% each of your credit score. If you decide to apply for a new credit card, your score may temporarily go down. And for credit mix, this refers to the different credit accounts you may have; such as mortgages, car loans, credit cards and credit lines. Having a blend of both revolving credit (credit cards and lines that you repeatedly use and pay down) and installment accounts (mortgages, car loans, that you pay off over time) makes for an ideal credit mix because it demonstrates your ability to manage different types of debt.

Credit scores are all about stability. It is something you have control over. With a little bit of know how and some care, you can boost your credit score by quite a bit. An excellent credit score will usually qualify you for lower interest rates on all types of loans as a high credit score tells lenders that you are a safe bet. At the very least, you can make smart decisions to keep your score in top-top shape. There are many articles to help you make decisions regarding your credit score and many advantages to keep excellent credit, even in retirement.

ACA News

By Doug Howland

Now that August is here it means we are halfway through our summer break and a few more events are on our schedule.

The Rays Baseball game has finally been scheduled. The date for this event is going to be Sunday, August 13th. The Rays will be playing the Cleveland Guardians at 1:40 p.m. The cost for attending as a Cove resident is \$38.00 p.p. If you would like to purchase a ticket please sign up with payment in the office. Checks are to be made out to ACA. Transportation is on your own but all our seats at the game will be together.

The ACA Burger Burn is back after taking last month off. It will be on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, August 15th from 5-6:30 p.m. (Note new summer time) for \$7.00 you get a one third pound hamburger, fries, baked beans and a drink. Come on out and let us do the cooking as you eat and visit with those still here.

There are still other events such as shuffleboard, bingo, Got It and lots of card groups still playing, along with all the regular daily and weekly activities. If you have never tried one of these events, give it a try this summer. You will be welcomed at any of these events.

We hope that you are enjoying your summer and are relaxing up for when our season starts again. It will not be long before all the snowbirds return.



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Announcements

By Ray Rodriguez – Editor



Finance Committee/Treasurer Update

We have been working on several projects for the community over the past three months. We would like to thank the Board of Directors, Office Staff and Committee Members for their help.

- The Board of Directors, Finance Committee and Office staff have supported all the details to ensure we closed our loan refinance with Bank of America on June 30, 2023. We negotiated a competitive interest rate, and our property value has increased significantly over the past 10 years. Our 117 acres will be attractive to home buyers moving forward for current and future generations.
- Our strong reserve fund is fully funded for FY23/24, however due to a series of recent repairs the Board, manager and maintenance team have identified several aging infrastructure areas that should be updated or added to our reserve study for the future. We met with Reserve Advisors on July 6, 2023, to discuss our current reserve study from June – 2022 and requested an update proposal to help with COLA adjustments and several changes/additions that have been identified. We will be working with the board of directors to identify these changes and submit them to Reserve Advisors for an updated study later this year.
- Due to fiscal management, cost saving initiatives, loan payoffs and share sales we have additional funds. We have interviewed several bank representatives to look for opportunities for safe, secure liquid investments while we wait for the updated reserve study and create next year’s budget. Investments being considered, T-Bills, Broker CDs, and money market accounts.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Treasurer or one of the Finance Committee members/participates.

George Paige – Treasurer / Phil Quince – VP / Scott Peacock- Director / Pat Stallone/ Wayne Brownlee / Bob Hardy / Fran Hardy / David Mclaughlin

Welcome New Residents

By Mary Ann Meljac & Cindy Rodriguez

Cheryl A. Palmieri
6912Americana Dr. NE
Prev: Riggs

Janet Larsen
7262 Mt. Essex Dr. NE
Prev: West Road Properties

Jennifer Decker
352 Mt. Richmond Ave NE
Prev: Dacus

Douglas Brown
7223 Mt. Essex Dr. NE
Prev: Blake





Water: The Most important Plant Growth Regulator

By Joe Noling



It can be said that water is the single most important factor that is required for plant growth and survival. It is a vital “nutrient” that must be available in adequate supply or plants decline and eventually die. It is the medium which allows plants to absorb other vital nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, giving plants the ability to move these ‘fertilizers’ to stems, branches, and leaves for energy. Water is vital for all of plant life, and not just for hydration, but also for nutrient transport and temperature regulation.

Water is taken up by plant roots from the soil, transported up the plant, and then evaporated through pores on the surface of leaves. This is called ‘transpiration’, a physiological process describing the passive movement of water through the plants vascular system which allows columns of water to move great heights. The speed of upwards water movement through a plant is controlled by the tug-of-war between water availability in soil versus water loss from leaves. For example, water can move upwards in some trees like red oak at a rate 92 ft/hr, while in a soft wooded pine tree, upward water movement is closer to 6 ft/hr. In my book the speed of that movement is truly a remarkable phenomenon. Trees can absorb between 10 and 150 gallons of water daily, yet for all the water that is absorbed by these trees, less than 5% remains in the tree to support tree growth.

Plants are like humans in many ways. They need air, water, and nutrients to grow and survive. People can go without food for weeks, but only days without water. The same is true for plants. Just like humans, plants need to regulate their internal temperature. They do this by ‘sweating’, or as the botanist would say transpiring, which is the process of releasing water through pores on their leaves. Water is lost as a fine mist to the atmosphere through openings in the leaf at a very high rate when it is hot, and plants need to regulate their temperature downward. This sweating process helps the plant stay cool in hot weather and protects it from overheating and desiccating due to excessive heat and sun exposure. They are thus dependent on periodic resupplies of water to “rehydrate”, to ‘chill-out’ and not overheat while out in the sun.

Evidence of the prolonged drought we’ve just had and problems with ongoing water shortages (both rainfall and irrigation) is still apparent throughout all of Americana Cove. During the entire months of May and June we had 6 rainy days, delivering about 8 inches of total rainfall. It was hot, with average daily high temperatures of 85° F for the month of May and 87° F for June. Daily average wind speeds were blowing in the neighborhood of 10 mph during May and June. During this period, we simply were not able to rely on rainfall alone to sustain the water needs of our landscape, particularly under such hot and windy conditions. The result of this prolonged droughty period is still being expressed in the wilting, severe thinning of canopies, scorching of leaves, and even dieback or death of many of our trees and landscape ornamentals around the park.

Anytime there is a week without significant rainfall of at least one inch, most trees and landscape plants will need some assistance from us to resupply the much-needed water to maintain a healthy plant. It is for this reason, that we should be so thankful to Americana Cove for providing irrigation water from a separate system of irrigation wells. As old as it is, we are thankful that is being maintained and available during periods of critical need. Without it, Americana Cove would not be considered such a beautifully landscaped and such a highly rated community to live in within sunny St. Petersburg Florida.

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Sunshine Report for August

By Cindy Peacock

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."
— Jimmy Dean



August Birthdays

8/2 Charles Hansen - age 99
8/2 Marilyn Waltz
8/2 Mary Willsey
8/2 Laura Abram
8/2 Tammy Shadday
8/3 Debra Garraffa
8/3 Dorrance Howland
8/6 Susan Napier
8/8 Kim Nemi
8/9 Irene Brandmark
8/9 Susan Solomon

8/10 Tina Deathhrage
8/14 Ron Sellers
8/15 Mel Corey
8/15 Betty Penn
8/16 Stephanie Haines
8/16 Steve Howard
8/17 Frances Epilone
8/17 Nelson Taylor
8/20 Libby Hopkins
8/21 Cheryl Pavelka
8/25 Lorraine Sapia

8/26 Leslie Diack
8/26 Judith Krapf
8/26 Sharon Leclair
8/26 Sharon Regan
8/24 Janice Zebley
8/29 Tony Giaquinto
8/29 Andrea Wetmore
8/30 Nancy Werner
8/30 Judy Whiteford
8/31 Linda Quince

continued on page 15

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August Anniversaries

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 8/3 Cheryl & Al Martin | 55 years |
| 8/4 Sylvia & Oscar Arenas | 50 years |
| 8/6 Marie & Ron Sellers | 62 years |
| 8/7 Janet & Dave McLaughin | 2 years |
| 8/7 Debbie & Steve Scrimpsher | 25 years |
| 8/12 Toni & Jeff Jones | 17 years |
| 8/16 Maureen & John Karem | 43 years |
| 8/17 Donna & Mark Peacock | 55 years |
| 8/18 Kathy & Phil Williams | 35 years |
| 8/20 Joanne & Tom Wallace | 57 years |
| 8/22 Claudia & Dan Dion | 41 years |
| 8/22 Diane & Roger LaRoche Jr. | 36 years |
| 8/23 Roxanne & Joseph Noling | 49 years |
| 8/24 Gerorgette & George Meade | 29 years |
| 8/31 Susan & Charlie Galligan | 22 years |



Passed Away and Will Be Missed:

Eileen McMahon
Mary Schankweiler



Boat Club

By Mary Ann Meljac



“Time flies when you’re having fun” is one of the simpler idioms used in the English language. It refers simply to the phenomenon that time appears to pass more quickly when one is engaged in something they enjoy. Janet Jackson wrote a song called *“Funny How time flies when you’re having fun”*. The Boat Club doesn’t wish time away but we like to lend a helping hand by sponsoring get-togethers at the Tiki Hut. This past Saturday, 64 people participated including 7 guests and 3 new members. Those who brought a dish to share outdid themselves with appetizers, side dishes and desserts. The 50/50 raffle was won by Nomi Lynch and she took home \$74! The next party is scheduled for **Saturday, August 12th from 5-7 pm.** Please come and join in the fun!

Our biggest and most exciting news and addition is the new poolside sound system. It will be ready for everyday use soon. Mark Andrews spearheaded this project along with Phil Quince, Bob Hardy, Gary Griffith and Al Martin. It is definitely a team effort and doing the install in this Florida heat was brutal. Easy to follow directions will be posted, near the receiver, which will be installed next to the pop machine. Stay tuned for updates.

Also, you will notice the new Tiki Bar lighting donated by the ACA. **THE LIGHTS ARE ON A TIMER SO PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH** any of the switches.

Don’t forget Boat Club Merchandise ... hats, visors, koozies, flags and maps are always available. Call Cindy Rodriguez at 248-496-6550 if interested in purchasing.

Book Club

By Nan Krueger



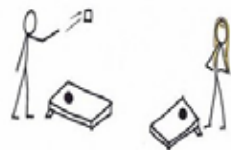
Welcome to August. With the hot and rainy weather there has been more incentive to stay inside and read for some of us. We are still having Book Chat and will resume our regular Book Club in September. We do enjoy a slower pace of summer and not having assigned books, but we continue to get together and discuss what each of us has been reading or listening to on audio books. We have continued our loose rating system - Yay, Nay or Just Okay. Information from our meetings is shared with those not in attendance through email. This helps us in choosing our books for the months when we do have a group selection.

Book Club information, including a list of upcoming books, is on the bulletin board in the Club House under the “Friends of the Library” section.

All residents are welcome to stop by and see what we are about, and of course to join us if you would like. We meet on the second Thursday of the month at 1:30 PM in the library. Those who are members of the book club receive email updates. Happy Reading!!

Cornhole Club

By Erika Fitch



Cornhole Club is still on summer break. We will not be playing this month but will be back again in September. Cornhole will be held in the clubhouse at 6:30 p.m. Play is still free for the summer months. Club membership dues will start in the fall. We hope to see you there with a renewed energy for the game.

We also hope that you have had a great summer and enjoyed yourself with a vacation or two or just sitting back and relaxing.

Call Doug or Debbie if you have any questions. (727) 366-4273.

Live Music

By Libby Hopkins

Hello Everyone!
Live Music Group is on hiatus!!! At Americana Cove, August is wrapping us in a lot of heat!

Please see the September Live Music Group article for details on what is happening with us, and what you have to look forward to!!

For those of you who are not familiar with us, we are a music group within the park that usually put on a performance twice a month on Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Clubhouse from October through April. We work hard to deliver an entertaining, fun hour of musical joy, and we provide snacks, drinks, and sometimes, spiked punch!

Live Music Group will all be back in the clubhouse in October! Happy Summer!!



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AUGUST • 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday |
|--|--------|---------------|
| SEPTEMBER S M 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 29 30 | | |
| 6 | 7 | |
| 13 | 14 | BURGER 5-6 |
| 20 | 21 | |
| 27 | 28 | |

Americana Cove

| Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 BINGO 6 PM. C | 5 GOT IT! 4 PM. A |
| 8 | 9 | 10 BOOK CLUB. L 1:30 PM | 11 BINGO 6 PM. C NEW RESIDENT ORIENTATION AND WELCOME 1 PM. A | 12 TIKI PARTY 5-7 PM |
| 15 FIRE BURN 6:30. C | 16 BOARD MEETING 7 PM. C | 17 | 18 BINGO 6 PM C | 19 GOT IT! 4 PM. A |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 BINGO 6 PM C | 26 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | |



Weekly Calendar Repeats

AMERICANA COVE WEEKLY Calendar Repeats - Month: August 2023

| Day | Event | Time | Frequency | Location | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Monday: | Walk Away the Pounds | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | C | |
| | Lap Swim & Pool Walkers | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | | |
| | Pool Exercises | 9:00-10:15a.m. | | | |
| | Bridge | 10:30am | Year around | GR | |
| | Line Dancing | 12:00p.m. | Nov-April | C | |
| | Nickel Bingo | 1:00pm | Year around | C | |
| | Progressive Rummy | 4:00p.m. | Year around | A | |
| | Art Strong | 6:00-8:00pm | Nov-April | L | |
| | Bid Euchre | 6:00p.m. | Nov-April | C | |
| | Cue Club-Men's | 6:30p.m. | Nov-April | B | |
| Tuesday: | Walk Away the Pounds | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | C | |
| | Lap Swim & Pool Walkers | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | | |
| | Pool Exercises | 9:00-10:15a.m. | | | |
| | Shuffleboard Social League | 10:30am -12:30pm | Nov-April | S | |
| | Maj Jong | 2:00pm | Year around | A | |
| | Progressive Rummy | 6:00p.m. | Year around | A | |
| | Poker Pool | 6:00p.m. | | B | |
| | Crafters | 6:00-8:00pm | Nov-April | C | |
| | Cards | 6:30p.m. | | A | |
| | Wednesday: | Walk Away the Pounds | 8:00-9:00a.m.. | | C |
| Lap Swim & Pool Walkers | | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | | |
| Pool Exercises | | 9:00-10:15a.m. | | | |
| Pokeno | | 1:00pm | | C | |
| Hand & Foot (cards) | | 1:00 p.m. | Year round | A | |
| Cue Club-Women's | | 6:30p.m. | Nov-April | B | |
| Texas Hold'em | | 6:30pm | | A | |
| Rug Braiding | | 6:30p.m. | Nov-April | G | |
| Thursday: | | Walk Away the Pounds | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | C |
| | | Lap Swim & Pool Walkers | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | |
| | Pool Exercises | 9:00-10:15a.m. | | | |
| | Shuffleboard | 10.30am | | S | |
| | Dominoes | 1:00pm | Nov-April | A | |
| | Progressive Rummy | 6:00pm | Year around | A | |
| | Cue Club-Men's | 6:30p.m. | Nov-April | B | |
| | Cornhole | 6:30-8:00 pm | | C | |
| | Friday: | Walk Away the Pounds | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | C |
| | | Lap Swim & Pool Walkers | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | |
| Pool Exercises | | 9:00-10:15a.m. | | | |
| Square Dance Club | | 1-2:30pm | Nov-April | C | |
| Poker Pool | | 6:00p.m. | Year around | B | |
| Bingo | | 6:00p.m. | | C | |
| Saturday: | | Walk Away the Pounds | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | C |
| | | Lap Swim & Pool Walkers | 8:00-9:00a.m. | | |
| | | Shuffleboard Hoss Collar | 10:30am-12:30p.m. | | S |
| | | Sunday: | Vespers Choir Rehearsal | 3:30pm | Nov-April |
| | Pickup Bocce Ball | | 3:30pm | | BC |
| | Vespers | | 4:50p.m. | Nov-April | A |
| | Pinochle | | 6:30p.m. | Nov-April | C |
| | Misc Cards | 6:30p.m. | Year around | A | |



***A:** Atrium
C: Clubhouse
L: Library
S: Shuffleboard Courts
B: Billiards
G: Game Room
BC: Bocce Court

55 ★ 2



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Carol Zapiecki, Clearwater, FL



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Buddhism

By John Howell



First of all, a gracious thank you to all who have acknowledged with positive feedback the ministry put forth, here and at formal mtgs. Contemporaneous “witnessing” in the tradition of Christ, Buddha, Krishna, Lao Tzu, the Bodhisattva ideal reflected as part of a global awakening, is our *raison d’être*.

Now as promised; a fun look at books, music, and movies for staying “kool” during some of the hottest days ever recorded on planet Earth. From a spiritual perspective may we contemplate in concert thus raising the “vibrations”, via joyful activity. As the blessed exclaim: “It’s just a state of mind”. So join us, and be blessed.

Books:

- “Cosmogenesis” by Brian Swimme, a physicist’s personal discovery of “Monotheistic Idealism”
- “Into the Mirror” by Andy Karr, everything needed (with clarification) for “Enlightenment”
- “We Are the Ark” by Mary Reynolds, Explains: “ARK” Acts of Restorative Kindness in nature
- “Heart to Heart”, H.H. Dalai Lama’s prescient message regarding the future of our planet
- “Dharma Bums” and “Desolation Angels” by Jack Kerouac (“stream of consciousness” rules!)

Music:

- “A Love Supreme” John McLaughlin and Carlos Santana’s cover of the John Coltrane classic
- The first five “Moody Blues” albums produced by Tony Clarke accomplishing “all the above”
- “Sgt. Pepper”, and “Dark Side of the Moon”, done reggae style by the “Easy Star All-Stars Band”
- “Return to Forever” by Chick Corea and company, some of the finest uplifting jazz-fusion ever!
- “Canadian Brass” One of the great chamber ensembles. Over a 137 albums that induce “alpha”

Movies:

- “Meru” a film by mountaineer Jimmy Chin and friends. Exceptional cinema verite (P.O.V)
- “Midnight in Paris” and “Stardust Memories”, Woody Allen at his best “double entendre” humor
- “2001 A Space Odyssey” by Stanley Kubrick, this all time sci-fi classic has arrived as fact; “HAL”
- “Yellow Submarine”, anyone who was “there” will understand why, “All You Need Is Love”
- The “Green Planet Series” By Sir Richard Attenborough, momentous documentary filmmaking!

Next formal mtg: Oct. 5th 1pm game room (pushed back from Sept. to allow more time for returnees)

Till next time try and keep a positive outlook, while being kind to all sentient beings as we continue to fully support and pray for our friends in Ukraine.

Namaste





Shuffleboard Club

By Anthony Daleo

As we are all aware, summer has arrived. However, we continue to shuffle 3 times a week, despite Florida temperatures. As mentioned in previous articles, anyone interested in this sport is invited to participate in shuffling with us on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and/or Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.



I would like to thank our Americana Cove shufflers who participated at the Pinellas Park Senior Center Shuffleboard event on June 27th. I think all who attended enjoyed the evening... with 52 shufflers; Americana Cove was well represented! We won a couple of door prizes, and I was lucky enough to place 3rd in the event.

In October, the International Shuffleboard Association's World Championship will take place from October 22 to 27, 2023, at St. Petersburg's Shuffleboard Club (by Mirror Lake). As information is received regarding volunteering and attendance, I will pass this along.

We look forward to seeing you on our Shuffleboard courts!

Let's Move to Florida!

By Barefoot Realty Group, Brokerage Agent for Americana Cove

Where are the top cities that people are moving to in 2023? The Tampa Bay area is definitely one of them. According to PODS, the portable storage company, Sarasota and Tampa ranked number 2 and number 9, respectively, of places people were moving. Orlando, Ocala and Jacksonville rounded out the top 10 locations coming in third, fourth and eighth respectively.

In another separate survey of buyers, Tampa was fourth out of the top 10 places buyers wanted to move, according to the Florida Realtors Association. Other Florida cities on the list were Miami at number three, Orlando at number 5 and Sarasota and Cape Coral at numbers 6, and 7, respectively.

The three main reasons why people want to move from other areas of the United States to the south are due to poor weather, higher crime rates and higher living costs overall.

Swim Exercise

By Nancy Olson

Hi everyone! August is here already, this summer has really gone by fast! In July, the swim group experienced some morning rainy, stormy weather and had to cancel class 3 times. Be sure to keep an eye out for postings on our group FB page. We will post a weather watch/cancellations on that page. Our goal is to make a decision by 8:45am if class has to be cancelled. We also listen for thunder and the siren that goes off at the golf course. We always are very cautious and err on the side of safety to all of you. On July 4 the class enjoyed and exercised to Maureen's music selection of patriotic and Motown music! Fun was had by all who attended. It's always nice to occasionally have a change in our daily schedule.



Items of interest:

The new compressor was installed and the brick paver job has been completed. Thanks to all of you for your flexibility while all this was going on. And, thanks to our manager Vita and board members Kathy, Phil and Linda who oversaw and made this all happen.

Be sure to check our group Facebook page for happenings in class, including weather watches, cancellations, birthdays, daily schedule, equipment needed, etc.

I want to thank all the subs - Maureen, Diane, Terry and Nan for being able to continue class throughout the summer months. It takes a team with everyone's busy schedules and these ladies are there to keep class going Monday through Saturday! Thanks ladies, could not do it without the 4 of you!!

Have a great August everyone!

Birthday pics: Gary Wolk and Phyllis Arkanoff

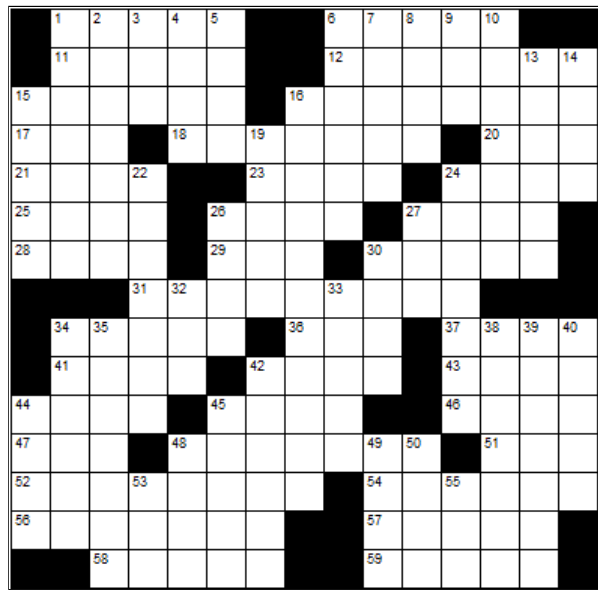
Fourth of July pics: Joni Wallace, Maureen Saunders, Janice Zebley and Carol Shephard.





ACROSS

- 1. Sink
- 6. Similar
- 11. Battery terminal
- 12. Bring
- 15. Trough
- 16. Whenever
- 17. Lumberjack's tool
- 18. Podium
- 20. D
- 21. Not yours
- 23. Existed
- 24. A group of cattle
- 25. Europe's highest volcano
- 26. Charged particles
- 27. Be suspended from above
- 28. Burn the surface of
- 29. Partially opened flower
- 30. Itinerary
- 31. Paring
- 34. Footwear
- 36. Hebrew liquid measure
- 37. Not his

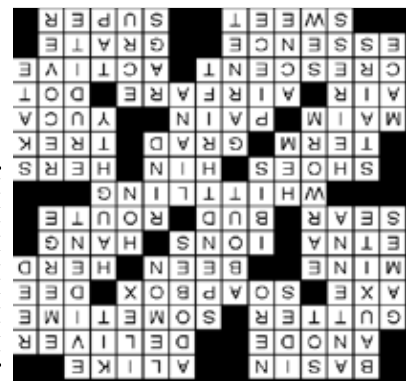


DOWN

- 1. Aluminum ore
- 2. Aerial
- 3. Boozer
- 4. Mid-month days
- 5. Adopted son of Claudius
- 6. Sun-dried bricks
- 7. Tart yellow fruit
- 8. Holly
- 9. Fox baby
- 10. Apparent
- 13. Come forth
- 14. Marsh plant
- 15. Diversions
- 16. Profligate
- 19. Give or take
- 22. An annoyingly catchy tune
- 24. Disdainful
- 26. Nile bird
- 27. Term of endearment
- 30. Peel
- 32. Skirt's edge
- 33. Tropical vine
- 34. Steps
- 35. A female heir
- 38. Having profound knowledge
- 39. Recoup
- 40. Glide over ice
- 42. January's birthstone
- 44. Riot spray
- 45. Fragment
- 48. Skin disease
- 49. Tatters
- 50. Beige
- 53. Stitch
- 55. Faucet



August
Crossword



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Ready, set - get your energy flowing



If you feel sapped of all life, maybe you need to reenergize. Your energy is the essence of who you are. The ancients who studied energy did not see it as something expendable that you run out of, but rather saw it as a force that can become blocked. You can unblock your energy by making some healthy and balanced changes in your life. Here are some suggestions on how to get your energy going:

- Take a shower—and contrast the temps. That means after your regular warm shower, turn the knob to dispense water as cold as you can bear for 30 seconds. Switch it back and forth two or three times. Make sure the water hits your chest, back and back of the neck.
 - Skip the coffee and start out with something that will truly perk you up. Pour hot water into a cup, add the juice of one-quarter to one-half lemon and shake in a pinch of cayenne. The sour taste of the lemon releases bile and stimulates digestive juices. Cayenne stimulates gastric acids in the stomach and raises metabolism. It gets everything started.
 - Thump yourself. It will invigorate you, so give it a try. Gently pound the insides and outsides of your arms and legs with loosely closed fists. Then try it out on your solar plexus, lower back and neck and your abdomen. It will increase your circulation and make you feel good.
 - Exercise. Get your heart moving. It will trigger the release of chemicals in the brain that will make you feel good.
 - Eat your breakfast. And continue eating small meals throughout the day, so you don't hit that wall in the afternoon.
 - Stretch your bod. When you're feeling washed out, try some stretching exercises to re-energize.
 - Go ahead—sparkle. Turn the volume up on whatever it is you do best. Try throwing in that extra oomph. Don't act like some lunatic or a phony. Just try being more upbeat than you usually are. Pay attention to how people respond.
 - Seek out those who are energetic. Good energy after all is contagious.
 - Break free of your rut. Let your energy be free and see where it takes you. Go to a new restaurant. Listen to music you've never heard before.
 - Put your personal stamp on everything you do. Living creatively does not necessarily mean you turn out amazing works of art. It does mean that you bring your uniqueness to everything you do, though. Dare to live an inspired life.
- adapted from body+soul

Resolve to be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant with the weak and the wrong. Sometime in life you will have been all of these.
— **Lloyd Shearer**



August Word Search



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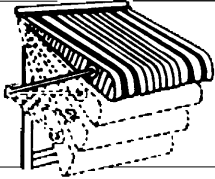
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On finding perfection



Two men met on an airplane and began to talk. They asked each other the usual questions, and it came to be disclosed that one of the men was married and the other man was not. After a while the married man asked, “Why is it that you never married?”

The single man looked pensive then said, “Well, I think I just never met the right woman, you know.”

“Oh, come on, man,” the married man replied, “surely you’ve met at least one girl during your lifetime that you wanted to marry.”

The single man once again thought about the man’s statement, “Well, yes, that’s true,” he said. “There was one girl ... once. The perfect girl. Actually, she was the only perfect girl I have ever met. Everything she did was absolutely right on. She really was the perfect girl for me.”

“Well, why on Earth didn’t you marry her?” the married man asked?

“She was looking for the perfect man,” the other replied. — adapted from www.OneSmartClick.com

On giving sage advice

An extremely famous writer came to deliver a lecture to a group of students who, it was known, were absolutely determined to pursue their own literary careers. The esteemed lecturer walked to the front of the room, gazed out at the ambitious faces in the audience and asked: “How many of you really want to be writers?”

Every student in the audience raised his or her hand. The lecturer calmly looked around the room and then said, “In that case, I won’t be needing these.” He returned his notes for his talk to his coat pocket in a sweeping motion. He looked up and said, “The best advice I can give you is to go home and write.”

And with that the esteemed writer left the room. —adapted from the Speaker’s Sourcebook II: Quotes, Stories, and Anecdotes for Every Occasion by Glenn Van Ekeren

An honest man

Cincinnati Red’s closer Danny Graves lost his wallet recently during a trip to the West Coast for a game. Graves just assumed his wallet was gone forever. The wallet contained about \$1,400, credit cards and Graves’s driver’s license.

Graves didn’t know it, but he had lost his wallet on the bus that took the Reds to the airport. Lucky for Graves, the man who cleaned that bus was an honest man. The man didn’t just return the wallet to Graves, he went to a lot of trouble to make sure the ball player got everything back safely. The bus cleaner took the cash in and exchanged it for traveler’s checks so that it wouldn’t get stolen in the mail. The man also overnighted the wallet to Graves. And what did this honest man want in return?

He sent his name and address and asked for an autograph for his father. —adapted from The Rugged Elegance Inspirational Network Web site



August

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