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SILK OAK

• CHATTER •

N

February • 2024

Issue 12 47th Year

Happy Valentine's Day!

The winter season is here, have some fun like these ladies of Doral Village Bingo!
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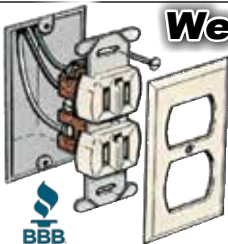
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History of Spunky Old Broads Day *



In a world that tends to tip the scale in favor of younger women, undermining talents, remarkable achievements, and legacies of badass older women whose zeal and passion have impacted us in ways words adequately fail to describe. Author/T.V. Consultant Dr. Carson boldly changes the narrative with her much-needed initiative Spunky Old Broads Day. This special holiday urges women aged 50 and over to fully embrace the beauty of aging, revel in their authentic selves by living regret-free lives to the fullest. Not just for old women, it eloquently describes all women as Spunky, Open, and Brave (S.O.B.).

Big picture: we see it at our every turn; how from age 50, the rousing applause gradually starts to fade, spotlight drifting to younger talents and just like that, years of hard work and dazzling brilliance is swiftly forgotten, and with that comes an overwhelming feeling of worthlessness, doubting of capabilities, loneliness, and invisibility. While society places limits and barriers on the 50 milestones, Dr. Carson S.O.B preaches otherwise. She believes 50 isn't a life sentence that automatically closes the window on your most significant successes; instead, for women with fire and spirit, 50 could very well translate as the perfect spur to reinvent self, conquer even more territories, achieve greater accomplishments, and impact their world.

Ushering in this fun month-long holiday — Spunky Old Broads Month — Spunky Old Broads Day, kick-started in 2002, pays homage to the wisdom, vitality, inner beauty, strength, and talent of incredibly vivacious queens aged 50 and beyond who have weathered the storms of life, and devoted their lives to guiding us with their knowledge and experiences.

Dr. Carson creatively used words such as spunky, old, and broad, with negative connotations to create something positive — Spunky Old Broads (S.O.B.).

*Article from nationaltoday.com submitted by Kathy Granato

Watch the Chatter for more Articles and Events by the Silk Oak Women's Club.

HAPPY
Valentine's Day

VINYL SIDING

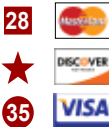
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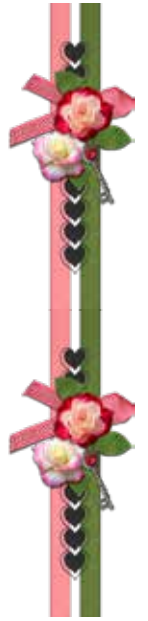
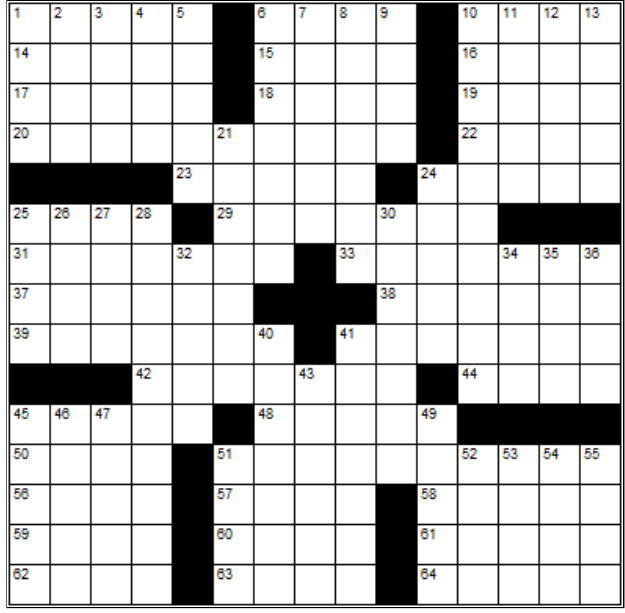
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ACROSS

- 1. Reliance
- 6. Taxis
- 10. Raindrop sound
- 14. Eagle's home
- 15. Affirm
- 16. Wealthy
- 17. Sail supports
- 18. Hindu princess
- 19. Aware of
- 20. Poulting
- 22. Average
- 23. Grin
- 24. Pal
- 25. Stops
- 29. "Hush!"
- 31. Spotted feline
- 33. Cuddle
- 37. Ravel classic
- 38. Trader
- 39. Intestinal
- 41. Type of pony
- 42. Heat-related
- 44. Poi source
- 45. Thick-growing
- 48. They connect points
- 50. Nitpicky to a fault
- 51. In a slow, laborious manner
- 56. 5280 feet
- 57. Rodents
- 58. Red Sea peninsula
- 59. Sounds of disapproval
- 60. Curved molding
- 61. Economic down time
- 62. Hotels
- 63. Flippant
- 64. Affirmatives



Down

- 1. Pack down
- 2. Genuine
- 3. Celestial bear
- 4. Seats oneself
- 5. Quizzes
- 6. Toted
- 7. Services
- 8. Types of hat
- 9. Large and hurried swallow
- 10. Proclaim
- 11. Delineated
- 12. Group of eight
- 13. Fake
- 21. Involve deeply
- 24. Music genre
- 25. River to the North Sea
- 26. Used in advertising signs
- 27. Buffoon
- 28. Too shocked for words
- 30. Brought on
- 32. Impressive display
- 34. Pleased
- 35. Extend credit
- 36. Therefore
- 40. Montage
- 41. Way of thinking
- 43. Violent troublemaker
- 45. Famous baby deer
- 46. Labor organization
- 47. Beauty parlor
- 49. Pantywaist
- 51. Brace
- 52. Egyptian river
- 53. Wildebeests
- 54. Hardly believable
- 55. Puppy sounds



February
Crossword





February Holidays



FEBRUARY

National Girls and Women in Sports Day. Feb. 7. Celebrates and honors all girls and women participating in sports. Recognizes the passage of Title IX in 1972, the law that guarantees gender equity in federally funded school programs, including athletics. For more information, browse www.NGWSDeentral.com.

Groundhog Day. Feb. 2. Old belief that if the sun shines on Candlemas Day, or if the groundhog sees his shadow when he emerges on this day, six weeks of winter will ensue.

Pay-A-Compliment Day. Feb. 6. Pay a compliment to coworkers, family members or strangers on the street or in the elevator in your office building.

Valentine's Day. Feb. 14. Celebrates the feast of two Christian martyrs of this name. Now it is one of the most widely observed unofficial holidays. It is an occasion for the exchange of gifts, usually flowers or sweets, and greeting cards.

Presidents Day. Feb. 19. Observes the birthdays of George Washington (Feb. 22) and Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 12).

Inconvenience Yourself Day. Feb. 28. A day to think about others and look for ways to inconvenience yourself while making the lives of others better or easier. For more information, browse www.inconvenienceyourself.com.



Monthly

AMD/Low Vision Awareness Month. Macular degeneration is a leading cause of vision loss. Low vision aids can make the most of remaining vision. For more information browse www.preventblindness.org.

American Heart Month. Each year cardiovascular diseases claim the lives of nearly 500,000 women. The American Heart Association focuses on education about women and heart disease. The AHA urges everyone to participate in Wear Red Day on Feb. 3. For more information, browse www.americanheart.org.

Bake for Family Fun Month. The Home Baking Association dedicates this month to the great taste, good nutrition, economy and family fun of traditional home baking. For more information, browse www.homebaking.org.

Library Lovers' Month. To recognize the value of libraries and to work to ensure that the nation's libraries will continue to serve the public. For more information, browse www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers.

National Black History Month. To recognize achievements and contributions by African Americans. For more information, browse www.asalh.org.

National Time Management Month. Dedicated to renewing those best-laid plans, re-evaluating and re-prioritizing harried, out of balance lives—and making commitments to balance them. For more information, browse springboardtraining.com.

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Carol Zapiecki, Clearwater, FL



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One of the greatest love stories of all time

In 1845, Robert Browning was an unknown poet and playwright when he first read Elizabeth Barrett's volume of poetry titled *Poems*. He was 32 years old.

Elizabeth Barrett was a well-known poet—and an invalid. She was 39 years old.

Browning was so moved by her poetry that he wrote to her “I love your verses with all my heart, dear Miss Barrett...” The two then commenced writing more than 600 letters to each other during the next 20 months.

According to The History Channel's Web site, Elizabeth had suffered from the time she was a teenager from a painful condition that caused uncontrollable spasms of pain and breathing difficulties. She had been a shut-in and a spinster for years. Elizabeth's father was a very controlling, wealthy man who had forbidden all of his 12 children from ever marrying.

Browning began to court Barrett, but at first she did not take him seriously, thinking that no one would be genuinely interested in her romantically. But Browning was ardent in his desire for Barrett. However, Barrett refused to see Browning for several months. Elizabeth found it hard to trust Browning's intentions because she had been isolated for so long and because she questioned the treatment of women inside the institution of marriage. But despite these almost overwhelming obstacles, Browning continued to court her with passion.

Finally, with the encouragement of Browning, Elizabeth left the room where she had spent the previous six years of her life. She began to go outside and live an active life again, and she cut back on the morphine and opium the doctors had prescribed for her painful condition.

In 1846, Barrett married Browning in a secret ceremony (to hide the fact that she was defying her father). When her father found out, he disinherited Elizabeth.

The couple left for Italy in the week after their marriage—and they spent the next 15 years together productively writing. Their courtship inspired some of the most beautiful and romantic poetry ever written.

The most famous line of her poetry was from her courtship period with Browning published in her *Sonnets From the Portuguese*, it reads, “How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.”

Elizabeth died in her husband's arms in 1861.



Laughter

Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.

— *Victor Borges*



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The most important ingredient



It was well known that Abraham Lincoln often slipped out of the White House on Wednesday nights to listen to the sermons of Phineas Gurley at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. The president tried to slip in and out of the services unnoticed—so Gurley often left his study door open so the president could listen to his sermons privately. One night, Lincoln showed up and took his seat in the minister’s study and propped the door open a little wider so that he could hear what the preacher was saying.

An aide later asked Lincoln what he had thought of the most recent Wednesday night sermon.

The president thought for a moment and then replied: “The content was excellent ... he delivered with eloquence ... he put work into the message ...”

“Then you thought it was an excellent sermon?” the aide asked.

“No,” Lincoln answered plainly.

“But you said the content was excellent ... that it was delivered with eloquence and it was the fruit of hard work,” the aide said.

“That’s true,” Lincoln said. “But Dr. Gurley forgot the most important ingredient ... He forgot to ask us to do something great.”

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



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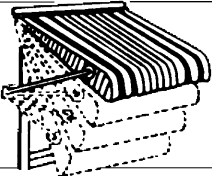
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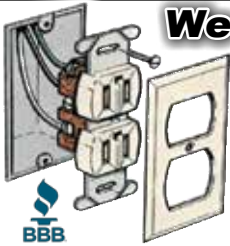
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Sunday					Monday					T
MARCH										
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31										
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										6:30pm Night
					11					12
					6pm - 2024 NFL SB Party					6:30pm Night
										Lincoln's Birthday
					18					19
										6:30pm Night
										President's Day
					25					26
										6:30pm Night

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Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Jan. 31 6:30pm - Bunco	1 8:30am - Coffee Hour	2 6pm - LCR Dice Game Groundhog Day	3
6 - Card	7 6:30pm - HOA Annual Meeting/ Elections	8 8:30am - Coffee Hour	9 6pm - LCR Dice Game	10
13 - Card	14 1pm - Women's Club Luncheon Bunco - 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day	15 8:30am - Coffee Hour	16 6pm - LCR Dice Game	17
20 - Card	21 1pm - Women's Club Luncheon - Place TBA	22 8:30am - Coffee Hour Washington's Birthday	23 6pm - LCR Dice Game	24
27 - Card	28 Bunco - 6:30pm	29 8:30am - Coffee Hour		



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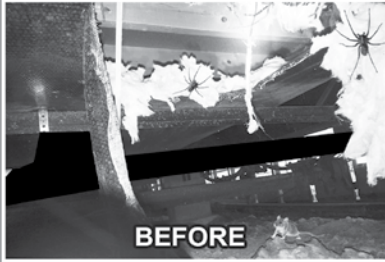
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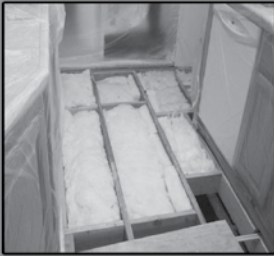
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Laughter

Seven days without laughter makes one weak.

— **Joel Goodman**

On exercise

Too many people confine their exercise to jumping to conclusions, running off at the mouth, stretching the truth, bending over backward, lying down on the job, side stepping responsibility, swimming against the current and pushing their luck.

— **Anonymous**

On shopping

Shopping is better than sex. At least if you're not satisfied, you can exchange it for something you really like.

— **Adrienne Gusoff**

On abstinence

Total abstinence is so excellent a thing that it cannot be carried to too great an extent. In my passion for it I even carry it so far as to totally abstain from total abstinence itself.

— **Mark Twain**

On adjectives

I notice that you use plain, simple language, short words and brief sentences. That is the way to write English—it is the modern way and the best way. Stick to it; don't let fluff and flowers and verbosity creep in. When you catch an adjective, kill it. No, I don't mean utterly, but kill most of them—then the rest will be valuable. They weaken when they are close together. They give strength when they are wide apart. An adjective habit, or a wordy, diffuse, flowery habit, once fastened upon a person, is as hard to get rid of as any other vice.

— **Mark Twain**

In a letter to D. W. Bowser, March 20, 1880

On happiness

If I could drop dead right now, I'd be the happiest man alive.

— **Sam Goldwyn**

Parental wit

When I was a kid I said to my father one afternoon, "Daddy, will you take me to the zoo?" He answered, "If the zoo wants you, let them come and get you."

— **Jerry Lewis**

On the fragility of opinions



A very long time ago, far away in another land, there lived six blind men. They had all been blind since birth. Mostly, the six spent their days sitting around inventing tall tales to see who could tell the best story.

One day, the six men fell into a great argument. The subject of their argument was the elephant. There were many tales throughout the land about the great elephant, but because none of the men had actually seen an elephant each of them had their own idea of what the beast was like.

The men hired a young guide to lead them in finding an elephant to settle the dispute. The blind men followed along, each one placing his hands on the back of the man in front of him, and in this way they made their way single file along a narrow forest path.

It wasn't long before the group came across a great elephant. The six became very excited. They decided that each man should take a turn at exploring the elephant's shape and form.

The first man fell against the side of the elephant and said, "My, the elephant is like a great and sturdy wall."

The second man grabbed hold of the tusk of the elephant and said, "My, the elephant is smooth and sharp, like a wonderful spear."

The third man approached the animal and grabbed on to the trunk and said, "My, the elephant is exactly like a snake."

The fourth man grabbed hold of the elephant's great leg and said, "My, the elephant is round and sturdy, just like a tree."

The fifth man reached out and grabbed hold of the elephant's ear, "My," he cried out, "The elephant is just like a fan."

The sixth man reached out and grasped upon the elephant's tail and said, "My, the elephant is exactly like a rope."

And so, the men continued arguing, even more loudly than before, each arguing for his opinion of what the elephant was like. And even though each was a little right—all of the men were more than a little wrong.

On unhappiness

It isn't what you have, or who you are, or where you are, or what you are doing that makes you happy or unhappy. It is what you think about.

— **Dale Carnegie**

The mind is its own place, and in itself Can make a Heav'n of Hell, a Hell of Heav'n.

— **John Milton**

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16

Einstein in ‘Tinsel Town’



In his book *Great Hollywood Wit*, famed movie critic Gene Shalit recounts this famous Hollywood anecdote. Albert Einstein once ventured into the alternate universe known as Hollywood. Many celebrities made it their business to get invited to the sumptuous bash thrown in the physicist’s honor. No doubt many at the star-studded event had heard of his theory of relativity—but it’s unlikely that many understood it. At the party, it came to pass that one of the 20th century’s greatest minds was introduced to Jack Warner, a movie producer who ruled Hollywood for many years. Warner’s studio was responsible for introducing stars like Bette Davis, Humphrey Bogart—and Bugs Bunny. When Einstein was introduced to Warner, the movie maker said, “I have my own theory of relatives. Don’t hire ’em.”

Things you’ll never hear your consultant say:

- You’re right; we’re billing you way too much for this.
- How about you only pay me based on the success of this project.
- The whole strategy is based on a Harvard business case I read the other night.
- I don’t know enough about that to speak about it intelligently.
- Implementation? I was just going to write a long report for you.
- The only real problem you have is too much work for too few people.
- Everything looks OK to me. You really don’t need me.

No future in it

John: “I don’t think Steve is going to make it as a speaker.” **Ed:** “Why?” **John:** “Because yesterday, when he asked if they could hear him in the back, and the answer was no, everyone in the front moved to the back.”



On success

If you have achieved any level of success, then pour it into someone else. Success is not success without a successor.

—**T.D. Jakes**

There are no secrets to success. Don’t waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence.

—**Colin Powell**



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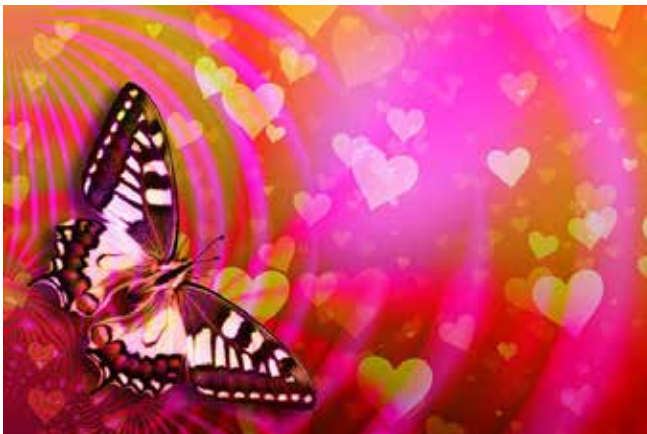
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OTHER	HUGE carport sale inside and outside the clubhouse. Browse in comfort. Clearwater Cascades, 9790 66th St. North, Pinellas Park. February 17th, 8-2pm. Furniture, décor, housewares, tools. Refreshments available.	Lake Seminole Resort Spring Flea Market, Bake Sale and Lunch on Saturday, March 2nd, 9:00am -1:00pm. Located at 10245 110th Ave. N., Largo Florida
GOLF club re gripping and repair in Largo. Call/text 301-466-7090	BriarCreek Community Annual Bazaar. 2/23 5-7pm. 2/24 8am-1pm. 3175 McMullen Booth Road. South of Mease Hospital.	Blue Jay Estates-Annual Community Rummage Sale. Friday, 3/8 and Saturday, 3/9. 8am-1pm. Bake Sale and Lunch available Saturday only. Clubhouse and deck. 2755 Curlew Road, Palm Harbor, 34684
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EVENTS & PROGRAMS	Doral Village Yard Sale Bazaar, Saturday, February 24th, 8am-1pm. 29250 US Hwy 19N, Clearwater. Furniture, clothing, linens, books, electronics, glassware, jewelry, kitchen items, baked goods, lunch and great raffles and prizes!	WANTED TO BUY
HELLO CANADIANS! Canadian Club Canadien Gulf Coast Florida, having survived COVID, is now regrowing to promote fellowship among Canadians in Pinellas County, and foster goodwill with American people. Join us; for our monthly lunch with informative speakers, weekly golf, MLB game, dinner/theater, museums, deep sea fishing. Your first lunch is FREE! For information, email: cccgcf@galt.biz.	2 Day Yard Sale Friday and Saturday March 1st and 2nd. Outdoors and in clubhouse. 8am-3pm. Bake Sale in Clubhouse and Refreshments available. LaPlaza MHP 6700 150th Ave N. Clearwater	Wanted to buy stamp collections. High prices for good quality. 709-682-9499
Gateway MHP Community Sale, Saturday, Feb. 3rd, 8am-2pm. 10100 Gandy Blvd. St. Petersburg	White Elephant & Bake Sale: Saturday March 2, 2024, 8am-1pm. Small appliances, furniture, lamps, dishes, linens, jewelry, baked goods, lunch. Lake Highlander Park, 1500 Country Road 1, Dunedin	
Carpot Sale, Feb. 3, 2024. East Bay Oaks and Eldorado Village. 601 Starkey Rd. 8am-2pm. NO EARLY BIRDS		
SUGAR CREEK CARPOT SALE. SATURDAY, FEB. 3RD - 8AM-1PM. 10265 ULMERTON RD, LARGO		
Carpot Sale: February 3rd, 8am-noon. Golden Acres RO Park. 1040 Main St., Dunedin FL		
Community Yard Sale: Holiday Shores Park, Feb 9th and 10th. Entrances on 104th Avenue North and 106th Avenue North, Largo. 8AM to 2PM		

MARCH AD DEADLINE - FEBRUARY 10, 2024

- Advertise BUY, SELL, TRADE ITEMS by sending copy & check to Monthly Media at 220 Bahama St, Venice, FL 34285.
- Ads over 10 words must be accompanied by \$.80 per extra word or publisher will edit. • No mobile home sales, no professional products or services. SORRY: No ads accepted by phone or email. DEADLINE: 10th OF EACH MONTH.



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It Pays (Up to \$100) To Patronize the  **Advertisers in Your Newsletter**

MONTHLY MANIA

THOUSANDS of manufactured home residents have won **over \$209,000** since our contest began!

HOW IT WORKS:

1. Patronize the advertisers in this month's newsletter
2. Ask the business for your Monthly Mania ticket, **OR a copy of your receipt and clip this ad**
3. Mail it back to us at: **Monthly Media | 220 Bahama St. Venice, FL 34285**
4. Every month we draw new tickets for **CASH PRIZES** and mail winners a check! **Every month is a new chance to win!**



Donna Miller..... \$100	Heller's Mobile Home Washing	Martha Blake..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Joseph Fayocavitz..... \$10 ...	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Home Wash	Terry Brittain..... \$10	Boss Electric
Dorothy Clegg..... \$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control	Evelyn Ruppel..... \$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Richard Dawley	Air Masters of Pinellas	Patricia Kiick	BugginOut Pest Control
Pat Puerling..... \$10	Bill the Carpet Guy	Lisa Kimmell	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Thomas Musko..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Michelle Bourdeau..... \$5	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Home Wash
Carol Mills	O.E. Wilson Insurance	Tracy Pinkerton..... \$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Martin Dietz..... \$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control	Garry Latter..... \$5	Gulf Coast Pressure Washing
Norma Torres Lugo..... \$10	Boss Electric	Tony Speelman..... \$5	Palm Harbor and Dunedin Electric
Thomas Leppanen..... \$10	Community Roofing	Andy Laurin..... \$5	Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Valentine Pietrkiewicz . \$10	The Plumbing Patrol	Lorne Brasier	Air Masters of Pinellas
Larry Byrd..... \$10	Jones & Sons Plumbing	Judi Osinski..... \$5	Ron Wyngarden Mobile Home Wash
Nathan & Cindy Henshaw \$10	Mobile Home Depot	Ada Bagatin..... \$5	Air Masters of Pinellas
Daniel Korcsog	Air Masters of Pinellas	Bill Chatterton..... \$5	Jones & Sons Plumbing
Tom Barboza	BugginOut Pest Control		
Sue Bannister	Air Masters of Pinellas		
Don Hagen	Jones & Sons Plumbing		
Gary McRae..... \$10	Battleline Termite & Pest Control		
Phyllis Madden	Royal Enterprise		
Jean Allain..... \$10	Air Masters of Pinellas		

**Not enough qualifying winners for the
January drawing! Mail in your tickets or
paid receipt for your chance to win!**

• Limit of one ticket per visit • Advertiser may have up to 5 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 •



SILK OAK GENERAL INFORMATION

COMMUNITY MANAGER AND NEW HOME SALES

Penny Riley Garcia Office phone: (727) 796-1356
Office FAX: (727) 712-3526
Email: penny_rileygarcia@equitylifestyle.com

Service department - TBA

OFFICE HOURS FOR COMMUNITY AND NEW HOME SALES INFO

Monday through Friday - 9 am to Noon and 2 - 4 pm

SERVICE HOURS

Monday through Friday - 8 am to 4:30 pm Closed Saturday and Sunday

EMERGENCY NUMBERS - FOR FIRE/POLICE - 911

Park Emergency Number - Flood/Water Main Breaks **after hours only: (727) 254-6021**
For Park Emergencies **during office hours call office phone: (727) 796-1356**

CLUBHOUSE HOURS

Open Daily - 8 am to 10 pm

Please note: Residents will be notified of dates and times of entertainment, clubhouse activities, and special events through the Silk Oak Community Facebook page. If you would like an email notification, please send your email address to Lorraine Neal Ineal. silkoakhoa@gmail.com. All email notices are blind copied to protect your privacy.

CLUBHOUSE WIFI

Network ID: silk_oak_club_house Password: clubhouse

TRASH COLLECTION

Curbside trash - Regular garbage pick-up days - **Mondays and Thursdays**
Dumpster Trash - Pick-up days - Mon, Wed, Fri

Please: **Do Not** dispose of Dog Waste Bags in Dumpsters (use dog stations)
 Do Not place items next to the dumpsters
 Dumpster lids must be closed at all times

SPEED LIMIT- 10 MPH AT ALL TIMES

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