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January • 2025

Issue 11
48th Year



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Colonial Village Office Hours

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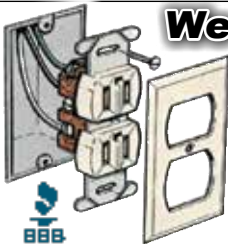


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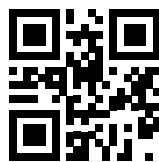


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President Ron Hanson's Message



Marcel Bourque has been invited to join the Board of Directors for Colonial Village following the resignation of board member Jon Lago. Marcel had run for the board in the latest election, and was runner up to the elected board members Marie Clement and Tony Foster.

The board would like to extend their thanks and appreciation for the efforts put in by Jon Lago as a board member in support of the park. Jon had been a board member for almost 3 years, and was an outspoken advocate of the park. He worked with other board members and residents on efforts and initiatives to keep the park beautiful. As one of the full-time board members, he also was involved with resolving park issues requiring outside support in the summer months.

At the November Board of Directors meeting, Ron complimented the staff for their professionalism, proficiency and reliability. Thank you Barbara, Bill and James!

Meet Director Marcel Bourque



I have been the owner of my own Construction Company for the past 36 years, along with my wife, Jackie, who handles the financial side of our business. I have built and remodeled numerous residential homes, and worked on Commercial jobs in MA & RI. Our northern home is in N. Smithfield, RI. We have been married for over 36 years and have 2 children, Alex, 25, and Lauren 24. Both kids love to come visit in the winter so they can enjoy the nice FL weather. My wife and I enjoy playing tennis, biking riding, hiking, and reading, and are currently learning pickleball thanks to the CV group.

My educational background includes Bachelor of Science in Business Mgmt., Associates in Electro-Mechanical Drafting and hold a MA/RI Unrestricted Contractors License.

I have volunteered at the Flea Market, and spent the last 3 years remodeling & landscaping our unit, and my mother-in-law, Bridgett's unit. I have enjoyed getting to know and help our neighbors with small projects.

I look forward to contributing my time and talents in keeping our community thriving as a 5-Star status. My wife & I spend about 8 months here at Colonial Village, and always look forward to returning each year! We are proud to be owners here, and look forward to giving back to such a great Community!



January Birthdays

9 Peter Palmieri, Unit 36
29 Enos Fudge, Unit 28



January Anniversaries

5 Myra and Jack Sonneborn, Unit 149
7 Debby and Bill Williams, Unit 45



Looking Back-2024



Highlights from Board Meetings

January – President Roy Joeveer resigned. Colonial Village is solvent. Two openings on the Board for the Scott Oke and Wes Smith seats for election in at the March annual meeting. A resident directory will be done. A mobile home tie down project will begin soon. A new vacuum will be purchased.

February – Four letters of intent to serve on the board were received. The potable water values project began (which will enable sections of the park to be shut down at a time; performed by volunteers, saving lots of money. SAC donated \$100 towards office supplies.

March - Annual Meeting-Election of two new board members – Tony Fisher and Marie Clement. Thank you for service to Scott Oke and Wes Smith. A list of seven residents who passed in the last year was read. New horseshoe pits were built by volunteers. Fire hydrant leak was fixed. Residents were asked to volunteer information for the new directory. 130+ units participated in the free tie down project. Some pool chairs replaced; tables and pool skirt painted. Agreed to have a park birthday celebration social event in January 2025.

November- Milton and Helene hurricanes damage discussed, amount of insurance coverage undetermined, tree replacements (We are down by 25 trees.), notice to residents with damages asking for repair plans. He complemented the staff for commendable jobs and their proficiency, professionalism and reliability; and saving the park money with maintenance repairs. Thanks to those who helped clean up and assess damages. Damages expense undetermined; not budgeted: more trees, shuffle board cover, vinyl fence repairs, and pool pump flooded. The northeast ditch retaining wall repair not to exceed \$70K from the reserve fund; need one more quote to have 3. Reviewed the spending patterns and predictions to develop the 2025 budget. Informative 2025 budget and reserve fund presentation and discussion including a \$10 increase to \$210 in the maintenance charge per unit; to be voted by the membership in December. We have reliable monthly financial reports. CV is financially solvent. We receive reliable monthly Treasurer's

...continued on page 11



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Romance scams occur when a criminal adopts a fake online identity to gain a victim's affection and trust. The scammer then uses the illusion of a romantic or close relationship to manipulate and/or steal from the victim.

The scammer's intention is to establish a relationship as quickly as possible, endear himself to the victim, and gain trust. Scammers may propose marriage and make plans to meet in person, but that will never happen. Eventually, they will ask for money.

If someone you meet online needs your bank account information to deposit money, they are most likely using your account to carry out other theft and fraud schemes.

Tips for Avoiding Romance Scams:

- **Be careful what you post** and make public online. Scammers can use details shared on social media and dating sites to better understand and target you.
- **Research the person's photo and profile** using online searches to see if the **image, name, or details have been used elsewhere.**
- Go slowly and ask lots of questions.
- Beware if the individual **seems too perfect** or quickly asks you to leave a dating service or social media site to communicate directly.
- Beware if the individual attempts to isolate you from friends and family or requests inappropriate photos or financial information that could later be used to extort you.
- Beware if the individual **promises to meet in person** but then **always comes up with an excuse why he or she can't.** If you haven't met the person after a few months, for whatever reason, you have good reason to be suspicious.
- **Never send money to anyone you have only communicated with online or by phone.**

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reports. Discussion regarding visitors parking, staying overnight, and no non-family members living in units without the resident present. Discussion regarding question about the ABC Pest Control company spraying frequency, the Board will inquire about schedule and ask that the office and residents be notified.

December-The purpose of the meeting was to report to the membership the results of the 2025 budget voting. Ninety shareholders voted. The 2025 budget passed with the \$10 increase in the maintenance fee of \$210 and funding the Reserve Fund; and the repair of the retaining wall on the ditch. Changed banks for our CDs, operating funds and reserve funds. The Nov.30 financials state we are \$8,000 better than budgeted (without insurance and hurricane damage expenses paid). A preliminary insurance estimate was received: shuffle board repair not covered; fencing repair and trees covered. The board approved a new rule, a 30-day notice and will notify the shareholders: no political signs and banners in the park. (Any bylaw change must be approved by the membership, but not rules and regulations).

Happy 50th Birthday Colonial Village, Inc

Colonial Village History by Jack Moore, Unit #140, 3 time board member and 2 year VP History of the Land. Published in the CV Chronicle April 2024 with minor edits

Part 1 Mrs. Virginia Laney and her husband, Robert, lived north of the Colonial Village Mobile Home Park property in her beautiful historic home, where the Largo Recreational Center is today. They owned grapefruit and orange groves on their many-acre homestead. Once the fruit was harvested, it was bagged and shipped by train to markets. Although not an open to-the-public fruit stand, some fruit was sold from the barn nearby by their farmhand Wilbur. Back in the 1970s Jack and Peg Moore would visit Jack's parents (Bruce and Helen, Unit #139). Jack and his dad would take trips to the barn to purchase the fresh fruit, and Wilbur and Jack became good friends over the years. Wilbur lived in the barn during the day and went home each nightfall after work. He, an African American, was a hard worker with minimal pay, packing the fruit in 20-pound bags that were full and very heavy to carry...for \$1 to \$2 for all bags each trip. Not more than 3 or 4 people from Colonial Park were aware of Wilbur. Jack would give Wilbur a lift home and would give him food and his men's clothes. By then Mrs. Laney's husband had passed away. Most times when Jack went and drove away from the barn, Mrs. Laney was on her back porch and waved her hand 'hello' and smiled. This went on for years. During those years she invited park residents to walk over and pick oranges, lemons, and grapefruits at no cost.

A few times Mrs. Laney came off the porch and she and Jack would talk, so she knew Jack. One day her wave was a 'beckoning' wave and they talked for over an hour about her life,

...continued on page 12



the property, and her health plans (She was having some health issues.). She had no family and friends she could trust. Prior to 2002 the 180 Colonial Village Mobile Home Park residents paid a monthly rent for the unit space at \$70 and a monthly maintenance fee of \$30 to the CV office. CV in turn paid rent to Mrs. Laney, the land owner. Jack asked her if she ever thought about selling her property and she said she had. Jack told her to think more about it and they would talk again in two weeks. Jack told her he would take her to lunch to a place of her choosing, a place she hadn't been to previously. They went to Clearwater Country Club and spent two hours talking. Two weeks later Mrs. Laney asked to go again and they did. This time Jack brought the CV treasurer, John Price, and again they talked at great lengths. She became very comfortable with them and the negotiations. Jack and John said they would go back to the CV 'selected' staff people to discuss and they would get back to her again. Sandy Myers was the president then and was very friendly with Mrs. Laney too, and was instrumental in the negotiations, along with David Conway. The CV 'staff' talked and put together a plan and included the park's lawyer, Bryan McLachlan and money advisors. Jack went back to Mrs. Laney to advise her of the CV proposal. She was very satisfied. The plan was for CV to purchase the land and become a 55+ resident-owned park. The purchase of the land took place on April 17, 2003, for \$1,250,000. Mrs. Laney eventually sold the rest of her property to the county. The county demolished the house and barn, and built the community recreational center and developed the park.

Edits were made since this copy was originally published.

Part 2 by Jack Moore. History of the Land. Published in the CV Chronicle, May 2024 with minor edits added

Prior to our owning the park land, prospective residents were interviewed by the "Sales Team". They showed the mobile homes for sale (or they brought in their mobile home), explained the park rules and the park amenities. The sales team was comprised of Ilah Meddles, Jack Moore, David Conway (then president), Bob Smith, Bud Pruitt and Ken Woods. The average price was sold for \$20,000 of which 5% went to



...continued on page 15

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Colonial Village. The Colonial Village Mobile Home Park land purchase closing was on April 17, 2003 for \$1,250,000. The Park total cost was \$1,855,250 which included the \$1,250,000 for the land; \$90,000 for Closing Costs and Attorney fees; \$200,250 Reserve Accounts (pool, roads, etc.); \$65,000 Retire Existing Mortgage and other expenses. The total cost of \$1,855,250 was divided by the 181 number of unit owners, producing a figure of \$10,250. To arrive at the final share cost of \$14,000, the current share held by all residents of \$3,750 was added. By the year end, they gathered more information for the tax appraisals, issuance of shares and the engineer's assessment as to the condition and remaining life of park amenities such as roads, sidewalks, sewer and water lines, clubhouse, laundry area, shuffleboard courts, pool, etc. The information was needed so they could properly establish their reserve funds. There were 181 unit shareholders. Residents were offered to purchase a share for \$10,500, plus a maintenance fee of \$100 a month. Some did not participate in the purchase at that time and held a mortgage. They continued to be part of the park family but not members of the corporation, and they paid a monthly maintenance charge. As of April 2006, 159 purchased, and 104 paid in full for their shares. At the time of our purchase, the original share was \$10,545.50. Effective August 1, 2006, the price of a CV share was increased from \$17,000 to \$25,000. The Board considered: 1) our share should be competitive with other parks in the area - \$30,000 to \$50,000 range. 2) should a catastrophic storm do damage to our park, the land is our most valuable asset, not the mobile homes. The land would not lose its value and a greater amount of our investment could be recovered through the sale of the share if it became necessary for some residents.

Edits were made since this copy was originally published.

Part 3 A Short History of Colonial Village park, written by Lois Harvey, November 1981. Published CV Chronical February 2024 with minor edits added

“For many of us, Colonial Village has been our only home since retiring from ‘up north’. For recent residents, this is a thumb-nail sketch of the park’s historical background and of the people who made it a fine retirement community. We are proud of its heritage and have faith in its future. On January 2, 1965, Colonial Village was opened by its owners and managers, Louis Brower and Leonard Collman, whom we called Lou and Len. The concept of this park was revolutionary, and a far cry from the typical trailer park. We truly believed the advertising, which read, “The Most Beautiful Mobile Home Park On The West Coast Of Florida”. The first five families were called ‘pioneers’. They were Riley and Helen Morgan, Alice Rudolph, Howard Burket, Dorothy and Howard Gatley and Bea and Cliff Bradshaw. Helen Morgan and Alice Rudolph are still here today. Forty-nine families moved in the first year. Starting in the fifth year Colonial’s numbers were 34 senior couples from New York, 31 from Michigan, 27 from Ohio, 21 from Illinois, 14 from Indiana, 131 from New Jersey, 6 from Iowa, 5 each from Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, 3 from Maryland, 2 each from Canada, Minnesota and Georgia, one each from California, Delaware, Kansas, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas and Virginia. 130 came in the next park expansion with adding Virginia and Independence Drives the next year, 140 in 1967, and the addition of Mayflower Aven in

...continued on page 16



1968, makes 180 homes now at full capacity.

The Village Activity Board included Vic Cookson, Homer Curry, Claire Eckman, Fannie Frutiger George Gillesby, Marion Harris, Ted Hildebrant, Mary and Harry Holzhaur, Carl Loucks, Rhea McPhee, Gen. Chrm, Ed Morrison Thelma Peterson, Secr., Charles Smart, and Bill Vagts, Tres.

Our rent was \$35 per month. We paid 75 cents per month to have our lawns and shrubbery watered while we were up north in the summer. The first ‘Coffee’ was held in January 1966, and was a ‘drop-in’ affair. The cost was 25 cents. Ester Bright Huffman and Gladys Mildebrant rode their bikes thru the park, each ringing a bell, reminding folks to come to the Club House for coffee and fellowship. Connie Lynch was the emcee for three years, then Bill Vagts took over until he and Nettle moved away. Loree Harvey became the emcee and suggested the job be rotated on a monthly basis. This has been our procedure ever since. Chairmen for ‘Monthly Dinners’ took reservations by going house to house. The cost was 75 cents. Each committee sought its own entertainment which had to be free, for at that time, we had neither a chairman for scheduling entertainment nor money to pay for it. Lou and Len gave \$50 for meat for each of the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. Lou and Len appointed ‘Block Representatives’ from each side of every street, meeting regularly to iron out problems. The idea was most unpopular and was soon dropped. We had dubbed them ‘Block Heads’ and no one wanted to be a block head. Colonial Village buzzed with recreational activities: shuffling, bowling, horse shoe pitching, bridge, bingo, monthly dances, square dances, picnics, pinochle. Eventually, a much needed ‘Activities Board’ evolved”..... (here many individuals were listed).

Edits were made since this copy was originally published.

Part 4 by Lois Harvey, History of the Park; written November 1981. Published in the CV Chronicle, March 2024 with minor edits added

January 1, 1975, will always be a special date in Colonial Village’s history for on that date we became the proud owners. Recent residents will need some background to appreciate the importance of ownership. At the time, all over the county, mobile home parks were being sold to outside corporations, and rents were being raised drastically. In 1973-74 our rent was raised two times in a 9-month period. Alarmed by this trend, three of our residents talked confidentially with Bob Becker, our manager, who also lived in the park. They expressed concern with these raises and asked him to relay such to Lou Brower and Leonard Collman, owners and managers of the park at the time. Our team of three also asked Bob to tell Lou and Len that if the park were ever to be sold, to give us, the residents, the first chance to buy. In June 1974, such an offer came. The price was to be \$1,250,000. The down payment was to be \$362,000. Still working quietly, these men worked out a plan for purchase. They advanced \$100 each for expenses. Bob Becker was eager to participate as a resident. They brought in another resident to help draw up plans. They secured a lawyer. Their plan was to sell 181 shares at \$2,000 per share which would cover the down payment. By-laws were prepared. They filed papers for forming a corporation. Then letters were written to Colonial Village residents informing them of the

...continued on page 19

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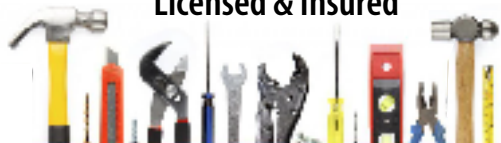


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chance to purchase. 151 of the 181 residents reacted favorably. The deal was consummated. As anticipated, our rents have remained low under home management. Our shares have increased in value. The maintenance of the park has been excellent. There were some rough spots in this new venture, but contentment soon returned. What we have here has made us the envy of many! We owe an immense debt of gratitude to those few men who made our ownership possible, and who became the first officers on our board: Paul Geisinger-President, John Bolt-Vice President, Bob Becker-Secretary/Treasurer, 'Pom' Pomeroy-Assistant Secretary, and Werner Hinz-Assistant Treasurer. The remaining board members were: Thelma Benn, Jim Watson, Harold Shafer, Charlie Perrenod, Lee Campbell, Stan Harris. Alternates were George Simmonds, Gene Frutiger, Earl Cline, Ray McClain, Emil Scherrer, Anna Kovalsik, and Bill Holdefer. A short history such as this doesn't permit the inclusion of names of those, who over the years have been hard working board members, committee chairmen, and 'jack-of-all-trades'. There are literally dozens of you who deserve being called saints the way you have labored to make this a smooth running and contented community.

You volunteers have served dinners, put on teas and style shows; fixed washers, dryers, and mowers; opened up the Club House, taken down and put up the tables a million times; pulled cats and red foxes (alive and dead ones) from under houses; taken care of shuffleboard courts and equipment; fumigated the rose room for 'those nasty critters'; emceed at coffees and told your corny jokes; decorated the Club House and Christmas tree; gave hospitality to new residents and cared for the sick. The only compensation you've received has been our verbal thanks and from the inner satisfaction you have of helping others. Bless you! Our past has been in good hands. On November 17, 1994, Jack Vandervoort wrote, "When Colonial Village was purchased by the shareholders in 1975, each share was valued at \$2,000". The present value of a share is \$3,400. Previous Rents: Study by Ray Atzhorn 1975 \$ 81. 1977 \$ 90. 1980 \$'100. 1987 \$110. 1988 \$115. 1991 \$130. 2022 \$170. 2004 \$200. 2025 \$210.

Edits were made since this copy was originally published.

Editor's Note: If any descendants of the following former residents and those mentioned in these articles are current CV residents, please let me know barbcroos@gmail.com. 908-229-8799. I'd like to contact you. Bruce Gottdiner, Ray and Cornelia Bevington, Thelma Barter, Mac McBean, Babs Lucas, Peg Hefner, Paul Loshbough, Dave Smith, Marion Harris, Rhea McFee, Charlie Smart, John Bolt, Myrt Jordan, Bill Vagts, Gladys Mildebrant, Ester Bright Huffmam, Connie Lynch, Loree Harvey, Helen Morgan, Alice Rudolph, Louis Brower, Leonard Collman, and Lois and Loree Harvey.

Part 5 History of Colonial Village Mobile Park, and Colonial Village, Inc

Imagine yourself driving westbound one sunny day on East Bay Drive, passing Keene/Starkey and then passing the shopping center on the right, then feeling the breeze and cool shade from the tall stance of deciduous trees. You can hear the birds singing and the rustling of

...continued on page 27

Did You Know?

National Spaghetti Day is celebrated every year on January 4th

In January of 1610, Galileo Galilei discovered the presence of moons around Jupiter? This marked the first discovery of moons orbiting a planet other than Earth!

The month of January was named for the Roman god Janus? Janus had two heads, symbolizing one head looking backward and one looking forward.



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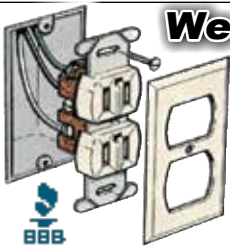
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5 CV 50th Birthday Celebration 2:00PM	6 Poker 1:30 PM "65" 6:30PM Epiphany	Euchre
12	13 Poker 1:30 PM "65" 6:30PM	Water A 11:00A Euchre
19	20 Poker 1:30 PM "65" 6:30PM Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday	Euchre
26	27 Poker 1:30 PM "65" 6:30PM	Euchre

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Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Poker 1:30PM New Year's Day	Water Aerobics 11:00AM “65” 6:30PM	10:00AM Coffee Hour Poker 1:30PM	Card Bingo 7:00PM
7:00PM	SAC Meeting 10:30AM Poker 1:30PM	Water Aerobics 11:00AM “65” 6:30PM	10:00AM Coffee Hour Poker 1:30PM Dance featuring Still Rockin 7:00 to 10:00PM	
Aerobics M 7:00PM	Water Aerobics 11:00AM Poker 1:30PM	Water Aerobics 11:00AM “65” 6:30PM	10:00AM Coffee Hour Poker 1:30PM Pot Luck Dinner Social 5:30 Dinner 6:00PM	
7:00PM	Poker 1:30PM	Water Aerobics 11:00AM “65” 6:30PM	Pancake Breakfast 8:30AM 10:00AM Coffee Hour Poker 1:30PM	Dance featuring Travelers 7:00 to 10:00PM
7:00PM	Poker 1:30PM	Water Aerobics 11:00AM “65” 6:30PM	10:00AM Coffee Hour Poker 1:30PM	

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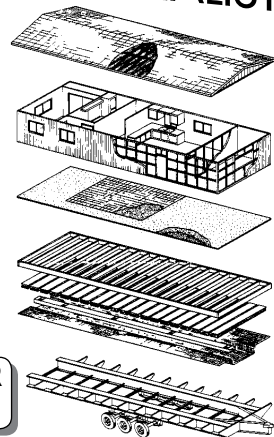
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the leaves. You can see the birds flying around the tree tops, and squirrels and rabbits scurrying around the grounds. Next you come to a stone entrance way and a welcoming large white sign – Colonial Village, 2000 with the horse drawn logo– within 10 feet of East Bay Drive (the only par entrance). Your long trip south ended. You're home. You drive through the punk trees entrance way absent of buildings on either side to the stop sign at Plantation Drive. In 1965 crape myrtle trees lined Plantation Drive and several streets, and punk trees and a link fence were along the ditch. That was before 2002. Today in 2025 as soon as we pass the shopping center, we see several large commercial buildings and a lot fewer trees before coming to our park's set-back entrance and Colonial Park -2000 sign.

Sometime after Mrs. Virginia Laney sold the land to Colonial Village on April 17, 2003, she sold the balance of the land between this park and East Bay Drive (west of the shopping center to Alternate Keene) to a developer. In February 2001 there was a city/park meeting when a land use amendment was discussed and eventually the City of Largo rezoned the property from residential to commercial. A developer had plans to build a RaceTrac gas station and convenient store there. Jack Moore, then CV's Vice President and several CV residents including President David Conway met and convinced the City of Largo not to accept the offer. However, the developer had already removed the trees. CV had the option to purchase the front property for \$300,000 but we had to decline due to budgetary restraints. Now there are three businesses on the grounds: convalescent home, dental business and birthing center. (All but one could be convenient to our 55+ residents!) Before the long white vinyl fence was installed from Alternate Keene to the shopping center, there were flowering shrubs and punk along the ditch to Alt. Keene.

In 1980 we had 20,000 gallons of excessive city drinking water usage bills during the summer months. Bill Smith and Jack Moore volunteered to resolve the problem. They were kiddingly called the 'potty police' when many residents were provided blue dye to put in their toilets to track possible water leaks. Bil and Jack also inspected several possible plumbing installations not installed properly and/or recently changed. One resident's plumbing changes were installed wrong, so as to water their grass with our drinking water. And then a few years ago, the issue resurfaced when the city water usage bill was extremely high (20,000 gallons over usage) and we needed to investigate again to circumvent this reoccurrence so non potable water wasn't used for irrigation. Over the years that unit had changed hands several times, unbeknownst to the new owner.





Interesting Historic Facts

- Colonial Village Mobile Home Park was developed by Louis Brower and Leonard Collman, on land owned by Alex and Lucy White as a 5-Star Mobile Home Park for 55+ residents. Brower and Collman negotiated a 40-year lease with two ten-year options with the Whites on October 1, 1964.
- Residents purchased the original park from Brower-Collman, Inc. in December 30, 1974. We obtained a 40-year lease with 30 years remaining, in addition, the lease contained two 10-year renewal options. Total balance 50 years. This includes all physical assets -streets, sewer lines, water mains, recreational hall (with 2 tiny bathrooms, kitchen, and pantry) shuffleboard courts, swimming pool, lawn mowers, shop buildings, tools, maintenance equipment, no street lights, etc.
- The purchase price of the park was \$1,250,000 with a down payment of \$362,000. The down payment was derived from the sale of 181 shares of stock to residents living in the original Colonial Village Mobile Home Park for \$2,000 per share for the original park.
- Brower-Collman, Inc carried our mortgage of \$888,000 with interest at the rate of 8.5% per annum for 29 years. Our mortgage payment was \$6,880 per month. Our mortgage paid in full December 30, 2004.
- Colonial Village occupies approximately 19.6 acres; now has three park entrances.
- The originally park rules included men had to wear sport jackets and ladies wore dresses in the club house. Originally no motor cycles were allowed; absolutely no pets were allowed in the park; no outdoor cooking; no bird baths or feeders; no vegetables or fruit trees (they brought rats), no raised rings around shrubs and trees; no fences; water lawn only by hand once a day on assigned days; ladies and men with long hair had to wear bathing caps; no one person in the pool, must be accompanied, and the speed limit was 10 MPH.
- A sales committee was responsible to meet, interview and vet prospective shareholders, show them around the park, explain the rules and give them an information packet. \$20,000 was the average unit price; 5% of that went to the park to pay for lawyer fees. This group was Ilah Meddles, David Conway, Bob Smith, Bud Pruitt, Ken Woods, and Jack Moore.
- The original park 'office' was located on Lot 101A in the original park. The lot was sold to a resident shareholder in 2006, hence 181 lots.
- 1966 - 1967 the pool was built.
- In 1968 CV expanded the park to include the 1.6 acre strip along the back property and added Mayflower Drive (and park entrance) and lots 146 to 165.
- By 1970, the park had 179 residents were from 23 states and Canada.
- On August 26, 1974, Colonial Village Mobile Home Park became its own incorporated entity-Colonial Village, Inc. Our original park rules and regulations were drafted by Jack Moore and adopted in the fall of 1974. It was to be a 5-Star Mobile Home Park for 55+

...continued on page 31



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residents, owned by the shareholders to include recreational hall, black top roads, sidewalks and curbs and street lights to be provided for in all areas where mobile homes are in use, lighted shuffleboard courts, swimming pool, laundry building with drying area, entire park to be landscaped and maintained according to present standards of the five-star park.

- There were two shuffleboard courts until more recently, due to waned interest. Back in the '70s and '80s the park had several active and competitive traveling shuffle board teams. Two fine teams represented us in the 'Big Ten' League on the Sun Coast playing weekly matches.
- We had very active and competitive traveling bowling teams.
- There were horseshoe pits back then; and now back by popular request in 2024.
- Pickleball was invented in 1965 but not popular outside Seattle/West Coast for many years. Now we have teams playing in the nearby county park.
- CV never took out loan.
- Our 'horse draw' carriage logo has changed several times over the years.
- Several times developers and conglomerates made offers to purchase each individual lot for \$185,000. The home would remain owned by the resident, but would then pay rent and maintenance fees for the lot to the new owners; it was unanimously rejected by the membership.
- In 1986 the first club house was built.
- In 1988 the board voted and approved to heat the pool; installation cost not to exceed \$2,500. The advocates/instigators were Hope Towle (Susan Collins' mother), Ilah Meddles, and Jean Leatherman.
- In 1994 a computer was purchased for the office.
- Excerpts from the Jan. 4, 2006 Board meeting to residents:
- Three items which had a major impact on this year's budget were increases in insurance, utilities and cost of funding our reserve or savings account, something mandated by specific FL statutes for residential corporations such as ours....The projected year-end 2005 is \$245,091 without funding the reserve fund. The projected 2006 at \$115 per month - \$294,822 including funding the reserve fund of with \$21,866.
- In 2003 the Palms of Largo park made an offer to buy the CV park for \$6M; it was unanimously rejected.
- In 2004 internet made its way to the park's office. And, an aluminum (or vinyl?) fence was installed along Alt Keene/McMullin Road and a black vinyl-coated chain fence installed along the north and east sides.
- Since 2008 there were three major park projects: 2013 resurface the roads - \$114,000; 2015 electrical pedestals \$88,000; 2017-2018 club house renovation and expansion (catering-not kitchen and pantry area) \$309,000; and other projects included -pool deck, stone patio; maintenance equipment.

- 
- Around 2019 volunteers repaired the northeast ditch retaining wall.
 - In 2023 the board voted to install the Geo-Thermal Heating and Cooling System to the pool and reduced the propane usage bill. Total cost was \$66,000.
 - In 2024 fire hydrant leak was repaired; many water valves were replaced in order to shut off water by sections without shutting the whole park down.

Great Investment-Share Values

In 1965 the share was \$1,200; \$25 for lot rent and \$30 for maintenance for the original park.

In 1974 the original share sold for \$2,000

In 1984 a share sold for \$2,900

In 1994 a share sold for \$3,400

In 1997 a share sold for \$3,750

In 2002 a share sold for \$10,545.50 for our present park

In 2006 a share increased from \$17,000 to \$25,000

Between 2006 and 2008 a share sold for \$37,500

Now, 17 years later in 2024, a share sold for \$37,500 - 60 years investment!!

Document written by Barbara C. Roos, Unit 58, December 2024; Editor of the Colonial Village Chronicle.

Sources -interviews with Evelyn VanDuyne, Unit 59; Kathy Conway, Unit 20; Susan Collins, Unit 85; Jack Moore, Unit 140; Stan Piercey, Unit 30, Bob Hopkins, Unit 43; Judith Lohagen, Unit 150, Marie Clement, Unit 58; and from historical CV directories including copy from Lois Harvey written in 1981.

In the December 2024 Colonial Village Chronicle, the list of Long-time Residents was published on page 31. Twenty-four individuals' profile can be viewed online www.monthly-media.com.

Editor Barbara welcomes any comments, corrections and additional historical facts which will complement this documentary of CV's history. Thank you. In the near future there will be an article(s) about generations of CV residents. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Is there another 3 generational family in the park in addition to Arvil and John Gray, (MA, 1964); son Earl and Frances Clinton (DE 1991) and daughters Marie Clement/Barbara Roos (DE 2012) in unit #58? There are many two generations of families here now. Let's hear from you. Names, Relationships, State or Providence, Lot #s. We are a village! Thank you for your contribution.



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17



17

1965 Interesting Historical Events

- U.S. occupied Dominican Republic
- Assassination of Malcolm X
- Segregation, Racial Riots erupted
- Martin Luther King and his 250 followers were arrested for parading without a permit, and the 10,000-person walk
- Ku Klux Klan march and burning crosses
- Civil Rights - voting march in Selma, AL
- New York City's massive blackout
- Last link placed on the Gateway Arch in St. Louis
- NASA's Mariner 4 flew by Mars, pictures
- Space monkey Baker's flight in Jupiter Rocket
- Franco-British jet transport plane Concorde debuts
- The second XB70A triplexonic research plane rolls out in CA
- Intercontinental Ballistic Missile viewed
- Muhammad Ali defeated Sonny Liston
- Lyndon Johnson took office for second Presidential term
- Multiscreen presentation at IBM Pavilion at 1964-65 World's Fair
- New television/telephone debuts
- Beatles and Rolling Stones were popular
- Sir Winston Churchill dies at age 90
- Vietnam War



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1974 Interesting Historic Events

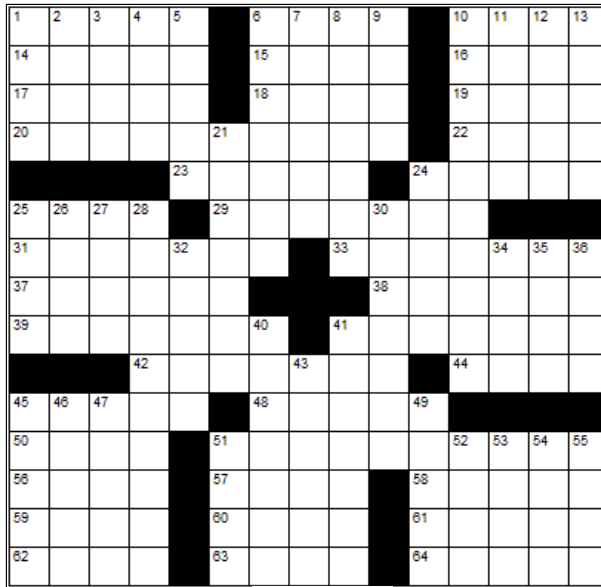
- Richard Nixon imposed a national 55 MPH speed limit; and resigned/Watergate Scandal.
- President Gerald Ford signed federal campaign reform.
- Muhammad Ali defeated George Forman.
- Daylight saving time commenced 4 months early in US due to the energy crisis
- The World Football League was founded.
- “Jaws” published; Happy Days TV sitcom begins an 11 yr run on ABC.
- The release of “The Godfather- Part II, Chinatown, Blazing Saddles, Young Frankenstein.
- Barbra Streisand ballad “The Way We Were” became #1 hit.
- First performance at the new Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville.
- Dr Christiaan Barnard transplanted 1st heterotopic heart transplant adding donor heart without removal of old heart.
- Pope Paul VI encyclical ‘To Honor Mary’.
- Baseball Hall of Fame added Sam Thompson, Jim Bottomley and Jocko Conlan.
- 19 yr old Patty Hearst was kidnapped.
- Three US astronauts returned to Earth after 85 days – Skylab
- U.S. performs nuclear tests in Nevada.
- Last Japanese soldier, a guerilla operating in the Philippines, surrenders 29 years after WWI ended.
- Terracotta Army was discovered, buried 8,000 clay warrior statues.



ACROSS

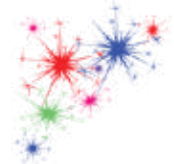
1. Dig (into)
6. Unit of land
10. Burrowing marine mollusk
14. More aloof
15. Implored
16. Anger
17. Gloss
18. Heap
19. Broadcast
20. Declutter
22. Opera star
23. Holy person
24. Kind of nut
25. Sit for a photo
29. Experienced
31. Gathers
33. Tooth doctor
37. Type of TV comedy
38. For naught
39. Robber
41. Accuser (archaic)
42. Electrician
44. Timber wolf
45. Lieu
48. Ballroom dance
50. Pitching to one side
51. She wore a glass slipper
56. Decorative case
57. African sheep
58. Grill
59. Countertenor
60. Nothing more than
61. Fatuous
62. Eager
63. P P P
64. Canvas dwellings

2025
HAPPY NEW YEAR



DOWN

1. Plate
2. Bounce back
3. In place of
4. V V V
5. Sea eagles
6. Puts on
7. Customer
8. Associated
9. Biblical garden
10. Certification
11. Boundary
12. Not dead
13. Nickel or steel
21. Neanderthals
24. Humdrum
25. Overtake
26. Leave out
27. Fill to excess
28. Increase
30. Tit for tat
32. Firm
34. Put ____ words
35. Untidy one
36. Apprentice
40. Pensioner
41. Fops
43. Farmer's fertilizer
45. Hearty entree
46. What books are called
47. Wash out with a solvent
49. Path around a star
51. Tent-pitching place
52. Sea eagle
53. Amount leant
54. Fluff
55. Anagram of "Sale"



January Crossword



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Euchre	Tuesday	7:00PM.....	Carmel Foster	#171
Poker	Mon. Wed. Fri	1:30PM.....	Dave Denny	#139
“65”	Mon. and Thurs	6:30PM.....	Jan Tremblay.....	#26
Dining Out	Wednesday	4:00PM.....	Ernie Bowman	#46
.....			Ilah Meddles	#46
Flea Market	Each February		Social Activities Committee	
Memorials			Evelyn VanDuyne	#57
Monthly Media Magazine ...	10th of Month		Barbara Roos	#58
Pickle Ball.....	Tues. and Fri	2:00PM.....	Scott Oke	#148
Shuffleboard	Tues. and Thurs	10:00AM	Cliff Bugden	#78
Water Aerobics	Tues. and Thurs	11:00AM	Marie Clement	#58
Wellness	Thursday	10:00AM	Diane Moores	#42
.....			Grace Hiscock.....	#54

Social Activities Committee

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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Bingo: Lake Seminole Resort. 10245 110th Ave. Largo. Monday, January 6th at 6:50 pm. Doors open at 5:30, Cards on sale until 6:30

Annual Carport sale, Lincolnshire Estates: 1071 Donegan Rd., Largo FL 33771. Saturday January 11th 8AM to 1PM. Over 50 homes: housewares, arts & crafts, clothes, furniture, tools and lots more. Maps available at entrances.

Rummage & Bake Sale: 1/11/25 8AM-Noon Golden Crest Clubhouse, 800 Main St, Dunedin

Largest Garage Sale in southwest Florida! Northwood Presbyterian Church, 2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761 will hold a gigantic sale on January 16th, 17th, 18th from 8:00am - 2:00pm. There will be something for everyone. Contact Susan Curry 727-709-8237 for information.

Shoreline Palms MHP (formerly Caribbean Isles) Annual Rummage and Craft Sale. 12100 Seminole Blvd., Clubhouse. January 18th, 2024. 9AM-1PM. Food available. Raffle Baskets and White Elephant.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Annual Rummage Sale: Saturday, January 18th 2025. 8am to 1pm. Boca Ciega Mobile Home Park Clubhouse 11200 Walsingham RD., Largo. Lunch Available.

Flea Market! Teakwood West Largo. January 18th, 8-1pm, Ohana Clubhouse. Large Selection of home goods, furniture, clothing, jewelry, baked goods, and lots more!

Sat. Jan 25, 2025 - Community Sale - 8:30AM - 1:00PM. Paradise Island Section of Lake Haven MHP. Main St. (SR580) & Lake Haven Rd. (W of Keene/CR1) Dunedin. Housewares, Linens, Small Appliances, Bakery, Jewelry, Raffle Baskets, 50/50 drawing, Lunch.

Point West M.H.P Bazaar and Flea Market. January 25th, 8am-2pm. 12651 Seminole Blvd, Largo. Furniture, Clothes, Household Electroics, Jewelry & Misc. Chinese Auction, 50/50 & Food

Sunset Palms MHP Annual Huge Community Yard Sale. Sat., Jan 25th 9-2pm. Raffles, Open Houses, Kitchen Open, Food Carts, Start in Clubhouse!

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Carport Sale Feb. 1, 2025. East Bay Oaks and Eldorado Village. 601 Starkey Rd and 2505 East Bay Dr. 8am-2pm. NO EARLY BIRDS

Huge carport sale outside and inside. Browse in comfort! Furniture, art, housewares. Saturday, February 15th 8am-NOON 9790 66th St. North, Pinellas Park. Refreshments available.

Sat. March 1st, 8-12noon. Flea Market, Colonial Village, 2000 East Bay Drive, Largo. Furniture, Kitchen appliances, housewares, bicycles, clothing, home-baking.

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