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January 2026

Issue 11 49th Year

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From the Manager's Desk

Christy Bourassa

own Yonder Residents,
Just an FYI: Parking not allowed on the street between the hours of 11PM to 6AM.
Cars will be towed if found on the street. You may park in the lot by the Manor House, if necessary.

We will be locking up the dumpster area every Friday at 5pm and it will open back up on Monday mornings. If you have a project and need to get in there, please call or text me and I'll coordinate it. 727-433-1964

Office hours will be changing from 9am to 5pm starting Dec. 15th.

Christy Bourassa Community Manager Down Yonder | Paradise Park 727.531.9149 | 727.531.2955

HOA

We wanted to get the information out to anyone who's home has been affected by the hurricane.

Pinellas County has received an \$813 million grant for hurricane damage.

Go to https://recover.pinellas.gov/ to file your claim, OR their office at

2600 McCormick Dr., suite #100 Clearwater. Telephone #727 606 3307.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8 to 5 Wed 8 to 7.. please pass the word to your neighbors and friends.

Anyone who doesn't know how to reach us, you can go to the Down Yonder HOA info page on Facebook and message us.

It's also a great page for information.

We get notified from the office if there's a change in lawn mowing schedule or garbage schedule or if the pool is closed.

Jan meeting should be on the second Tuesday, Jan 13th at 7PM.

Thank you

Down Yonder Homeowners Association.

Down Yonder Community Association

April Porth, President

i all!! Just wanted to thank everyone again for the last 2 years. Let's keep the great Lturnouts coming!!!

For January we are having Coffee and Donuts on the 3rd at 10am and on January 24th we will have a Dance party with DJ John who will be playing songs from 60, 70 and 80's. Party starts at 7pm. We will have some finger foods and sodas for you.

Have a great 2026 and see you all soon.

April Porth DYCA

PS: No ticket needed for the dance!

Happy Birthday – January

- Maz Chitwood
- 4 Howard Jeffries, Gordon Schuster
- 7 Lisa Stouffer, Sue Myers
- 11 Bob Aubin
- 12 John Pisanek
- 15 C. R. Cole, Betty Hagadone, Herman Knaus
- 22 Nancy Knaus
- 23 Cindy Yarolimek
- 24 Brian Ekborg
- 28 Rolland Haworth
- 29 Diane Pearce, Peggy Vucetich
- 30 E. J. Moon, Jack Wilson

Happy Anniversary – January

31 Robert & Donna Snyder





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email: paul@herzfeld.net visit: noflprobate.com





Chair Yoga

Te now have an instructor offering chair yoga classes at the Manor House (see calendar for days and times). \$10 fee (watch the DYCA facebook page for updates). You can just drop in to the class anytime. Come on out, have fun and get some exercise too!

BOWLING

The bowl every Wednesday, 12:30PM, at Liberty Lanes on Starkey. For more information call Anita 708-421-3509

SHUFFLE

Tse at your own discretion.

Poker

The are having poker night at the Manor House. Monday evenings at 7PM. Come and join us.

Down Yonder Ladies

Caryl Ciofani Lot 205. 262-352-1067

Y Community Connections Facebook page:
Welcome to the new residents! The best way to keep up with the activities of our community is to join the Facebook page. It is kept up to date as best as possible.
PRIVATE MESSAGE me and I will help you join us. Caryl Schmieder Anderson Ciofani or call me 262-352-1067





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LUNCHEON

uncheon will be on Jan. 27th at 1PM. Watch the facebook page for more info.

KNITTING, CROCHET, NEEDLE POINT ETC.

Te do it all on Monday evenings 6:30 – 8:00 in the Manor House.

Come join us, we are always glad to help you with your project!

Sometimes we work on personal projects but most often we have been making items for those in need. We have delivered many afghans to Bay Pines for the vets in their nursing home there. Most recently we have been making hats and scarves. These are distributed through social service agencies. We donated nearly 100 hats to the homeless shelter here in Pinellas! Now we are working on blankets for the Linus project. They collect and donate blankets for children and teens who are in foster care or hospitalized. Some of us are working on a personal project. You can do what ever you choose! Come join us.

Letter From the Editor:

Telcome to 2026! We were blessed with a quiet storm season in 2025. Let's hope we can keep that up this year.

Pagure to check out the HOA article for weeful information on applying for

V W Be sure to check out the HOA article for useful information on applying for county funds to cover hurricane damage.

Also keep an eye on the electronic sign at the Manor House for events and for updates and additions to events as listed here in the Media. We have to submit the copy so early in the month before that often plans change before the actual event is held.

Regarding the birthday and anniversary lists: I know they are inaccurate as they are old lists but they are all I have to go on. If you see a name that should be removed or have one to add, please give me a call or send an email to the address below. Thanks.

Anyone who wants to submit an article, poem, recipe, joke, etc.you are welcome too. If you would like to submit something, please send it to my attention at this email address: dymonthlymedia@gmail.com. Thanks!

Marilyn Magee Media Editor 727-688-5583

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Florida Statute 723.075 states that only bona fide owners of a manufactured home in the community can be members. I agree as a member in good standing to waive all meeting, special meeting and annual meeting notices by mail, hand delivery and accept announcements of such meetings in the Monthly Media, bulletin board in the library or on the marquee signage at the Manor House or other forms of electronic media.

	_	 YES	N	O	
Lot#	Phone				
NAME:		_ CO-OWN	IER:		
SIGNATURE:		SIGNA	ATURE:		
EMAIL ADDRES	SS:				

I agree to be a member of the HOA and have enclosed my yearly membership dues of \$20.00 Your support is greatly appreciated!



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Please fill out this form and return it to the office, so they can keep track of your golf cart in case it gets stolen. Without this form, Largo Police Dept will have no way of tracking you cart. Golf Cart Identification Form

 Owner

 Address

 Phone

 Serial #
 MFG Code.

 Color
 Make
 Other

 3 Wheels
 4 Wheels

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Square with a Number: This counts the years the advertiser has been sharing their story in Monthly Media. A sign of their commitment to your community!

These icons help you spot the seasoned, trustworthy, and loyal businesses at a glance. Happy reading!

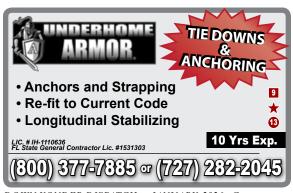
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Sunday	Monday	Tı
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	6:30PM Knitting,	
	Crochet, Needle	
	Work, etc	
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	Crochet, Needle Work, etc	
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10	6:30PM Knitting,	
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	Montin Luthon Vince Lui-	
	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	
25	26	
	6:30PM Knitting,	
	Crochet, Needle	
	Work, etc	
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Down Yonder

ıesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10AM Chair Yoga at the Manor House	10AM Coffee and Donuts
		New Year's Day		
6	7 12:30PM Bowling	8	9 10AM Chair Yoga at the Manor House	10
piphany				
13 DA Meeting	14 12:30PM Bowling	15	16 10AM Chair Yoga at the Manor House	17
20	12:30PM Bowling	22	23 10AM Chair Yoga at the Manor House	7PM Dance Party
27	28 12:30PM Bowling	29	30 10AM Chair Yoga at the Manor House	31

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Monthly

B ook Blitz Month. This is a time for authors of all genres to put themselves out there and promote their work. For the rest of us, it's a time to celebrate literacy, set personal goals to read more, and curl up with a good book.

National Braille Literacy Month. Developed in the 19th century by Louis Braille, this tactile system allows visually impaired and blind individuals a way to read, write, and learn.

International Creativity Month. Whether you're a homemaker, student, employee, employer, or retiree, this is the month to challenge yourself and your usual way of doing things. Try something new, explore, innovate, broaden your horizons of expression, and create something.

Hot Tea Month. Black, white, green, herbal, oolong, Darjeeling, Ceylon, chai—the list can go on for several pages. There are thousands of teas and blends to try. Find a new favorite and warm up with a cup of fragrant goodness this winter.

Self-Love Month. Many of us have already promised to become better at being better this year. Why not start by showing yourself some TLC? Find a way to honor, appreciate, and love yourself this January.

Weekly

lvis Presley Birthday Celebration Week, Jan. 7-11. If you can make it to Memphis, you can walk in the footsteps of "The King" and visit Elvis' estate, Graceland, where plenty of activities will honor the legendary singer.

Universal Letter Writing Week, Jan 11-17. Since 1971, the Universal Postal Union has held a letter writing competition for young people age 15 and under. The event is a way to promote both literacy and the development of composition skills throughout the world. The theme of this year's contest asks writers: "Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers?"

Healthy Weight Week, Jan. 18-24. This isn't about diets or the latest weight loss trends. A healthy body image is the key to establishing realistic goals and strategies that will help you to achieve and maintain a healthy weight and body mass. Factors such as age, bone structure, height, and physical ability should also be considered when developing personal health standards. Check in with your physician before making any changes to your diet, nutrition, and activities.

National Clean Out Your Inbox Week, Jan. 21-27. This can be a challenge of epic proportions for those who don't prioritize, sort, and organize incoming emails. Use this week to unsubscribe from or change delivery preferences for electronic communications cluttering your inbox. Save only what's necessary. Delete, delete, delete.











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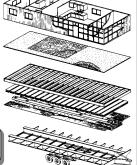
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The courage to try

ife lessons can come from the most unlikely sources if we are open to receiving what they have to offer us. For Tricia Goyer, a wife, mother, and accomplished author, a lesson in bravery came from her twentysomething son Nathan.

When he announced his plans to write a book, Goyer encouraged him and even promised to edit it once the manuscript was completed. With 500 magazine articles bylines and more than 50 published books of nonfiction and fiction, Goyer knew her insight would be beneficial. She also knew that Nathan had a gift for creating and telling stories, which had been a favorite pastime since his childhood.

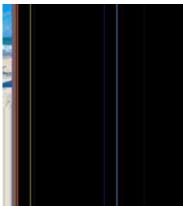
As Goyer edited Nathan's rough draft she realized that her son had a talent for writing and decided they should hire a professional editor to review the text. The editor also liked Nathan's work and offered the aspiring novelist some constructive feedback.

After the rewrites were finished, Goyer told her son to start weighing his options about next steps in the publishing process. He could go the traditional route and work with a publisher, or self-publish. Nathan told her he'd need time to think things over and then excused himself to run an errand. He returned a short time later and announced that he would self-publish his work as an e-book. The next day his novel Bask was for sale on Amazon.com. It has even received a few positive reviews.

For Goyer, taking those next steps in the process of publishing one of her many books has never been something she could act on with that kind of certainty or efficiency. She says she would first share copies with as many as 20 friends and consider their feedback. Next she might attend a workshop or conference to solicit even more feedback and advice before deciding which route to take.

Nathan has inspired Goyer to believe that "sometimes we just need to roll up our sleeves and do what we've been afraid to try."





DOWN YONDER DISPATCH JANUARY, 2026 C

JANUARY

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		58							59					

DOWN

- 1. Land
- 2. Male genitalia
- 3. Uncooked
- 4. Small island
- 5. Not more
- 6. Arrive past due
- 7. Utilizers
- 8. Neuter
- 9. 2000 pounds
- 10. Kill oneself intentionally
 13. Breathes noisily while sleeping
 14. They come from hens
 15. Started

- 16. Gun repairing
- 19. Dogs wag these
- 22. Anticlimax
- 24. Blimp
- 26. Opening

- 27. Deli loaf

- 30. King of the jungle 32. Anagram of "One" 33. They can be fraternal or identical
- 34. On land
- One who establishes
- 38. Building 39. Mammals like camels
- 40. Apprehensive
- 42. Objects
- 44. Fired a projectile
- 45. Holy person
- 48. Smile
- 49. Gorillas
- 50. English royal house
- 53. An uncle
- 55. Fifty-two in Roman
- numerals

ACROSS

- 1. Spring month
- 6. Failures
- 11. Pursue
- 12. Take up the cause
- 15. Barroom fights
- 16. Harvesting
- 17. Snake-like fish
- 18. Wide part of a river
- 20. Sprocket 21. Chutzpah
- 23. Picnic insects
- 24. Broadcasts
- 25. Chills and fever
- 26. Workshop gripper
- 27. Fair attraction 28. Bird home
- 29. Type of tree 30. Harps
- 31. Amounts per unit size
- 34. Underway
- 36. One plus one 37. Make well
- 41. Scattered seed
- 42. Not fat
- 43. Inactive
- 44. Blackball
- 45. Tibia
- 46. Tube
 - 47. Term of endearment 48. Deny

 - 51. Distant
 - 52. Making menu requests
 - 54. A plan of action
- 56. Abounding
- 57. Genus of heath
- 58. Leases
- 59. Where clouds are



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Who you want to be

farmer on his way into town pulled over to pick up a young man thumbing for a ride.

The two men began to talk, with the younger man sharing his experiences of his solo hiking and camping adventures.

"So what do you plan to do when this is over?" the farmer asked.

The young man mapped out his plans of a university education, graduate school, a job with a fancy title and a huge salary, future board positions, his own company, and more money than he could spend in three lifetimes. "You know what they say," the young man remarked. "You should dream big or not dream at all."

"It's a pretty big dream," the farmer said, "but little more than that."

The farmer continued, "It seems to me that if you wanted to accomplish any of those things you wouldn't be hitchhiking through small towns. You'd be somewhere else working and building on the knowledge and skills required to help you achieve your goals."

"Right now, I'm figuring out who I am," the young man said.

"Why don't you try figuring out who you want to be?" the farmer replied.



Quotes

Te are, as a species, addicted to story. Even when the body goes to sleep, the mind stays up all night, telling itself stories.

—John Gottschal

Words are how we think; stories are how we link.

— Christina Baldwin

MERRY CHRISTMAS

What friends are for

wo women were discussing their weight loss goals and dieting strategies. "We should team up. We could work out together, exchange recipes, and support each other," said one woman.

"Sounds like a plan," replied the other.

"And when I'm craving a deep-dish pizza with a side of cheese fries, like I am right now—"

"Don't worry, sister, I've got your back," said the friend. "I could go for a slice myself and know just the place. Come on, I'm driving."

The meaning of life

Ryan left behind a successful career and all the material trappings his wealth afforded. In his quest for a more meaningful life, he embarked on a pilgrimage to a faraway land to seek the counsel of a sage rumored to live on the summit of a mountain.

Ryan's journey took him through villages, valleys, and forests; he hiked through rugged terrain and climbed over sharp rocks. He was exhausted once he reached the base of the mountain and camped out there for a couple of days to regain his strength before his ascent.

The climb up the mountain was grueling, but Ryan knew he would be rewarded once he reached the top and learned the meaning of life from the sage.

When Ryan finished his climb, he made it to a tiny hut where he encountered the sage sitting cross-legged in the middle of the floor. Ryan sat cross-legged across from the sage and said, "I have discarded all of my material possessions and traveled thousands of miles to learn the meaning of life from you."

The sage cleared his throat and said, "Life ... is like ... a—" The sage dropped his head and began to snore. Ryan poked the sage on the shoulder and the sage mumbled, "What was I saying?"

"You were going to tell me the meaning of life."

"Oh, yes," the sage said. "Life is like a rock." He shrugged his shoulders and then coughed.

"That's it?" Ryan asked.

"Hey, what did you expect? I'm just an old man living alone on the top of a mountain."



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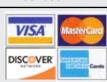
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A changed man

Then Fred stumbled home from a night of revelry, he immediately fell on his knees and said, "God, thank you for helping this sinner make it home tonight."

He went to the medicine cabinet for aspirin and gasped when he glimpsed his reflection in the mirror. His eyes where bloodshot, his hair was matted to his head with some unknown sticky substance, his skin looked like sandpaper, his knuckles where scraped, and his clothes were ripped and disheveled. "That's it," he proclaimed to his reflection. "I'm going to turn my life around."

Before he passed out that night, Fred mumbled, "God, I'm going to mend my wicked ways."

The next day Fred awoke a changed man. He stopped drinking and started juicing. He became a vegetarian. Instead of partying all night, he rose early and went for runs, started lifting weights. He rode his bicycle just about everywhere and was in the best shape of his life. Friends remarked that he looked 20 years younger.

One day, while crossing the street to go to the health food store, Fred was hit by a car. As he was dying on the curb, he said, "God, why now? I was doing so much better."

God replied, "Fred? Is that you? Oh, man, I didn't recognize you."

Stage one

Toe asked his friend Dan for a cigarette.

"I thought you made a resolution to stop smoking this year," Dan replied.

"I did," Joe agreed, "but it's a process with many steps that must be completed before you actually quit. Right now, I'm working through stage one."

"Wone?"

"To iod where I stop in the stop in the

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Three tips to spark your brain

reconceptions about what being creative really means. Try these tactics for opening up your mind to innovative possibilities:

• Focus on intuition, not intelligence. You don't have to be a genius to be creative. Train yourself to listen to your feelings, random thoughts, dreams, and intuition. Often ideas and solutions come to us when we aren't looking.

• Give yourself space to think. Collecting data about what you're working on is good, but don't let facts crowd out your creative impulses. Set the information aside and step back to allow your mind to process it without pushing. Build some room inside your head to let ideas grow.

• Try something different. Breaking your routine can lead to creative insights. See the kind of movie you'd never ordinarily watch. Take a walk in a new neighborhood. Fly a kite, or take up a new exercise regimen. Mixing things up can help your mind look at the world in new and different ways, sparking your imagination.

How creative types have gotten into the groove throughout history

ome people take unusual steps to get their creative impulses going. From the Mental Floss website, some examples of how famous folks have jumpstarted their imagination:

- Yoshiro Nakamatsu. This Japanese inventor with more than 3,000 patents to his name dives underwater, holds his breath, and scribbles ideas on a Plexiglas board in his swimming pool.
- Leonardo da Vinci. The Italian artist and inventor honed his creative instincts by taking short naps every four hours throughout the day. He's said to have slept a total of just two hours every day.
- **Thomas Edison**. This inventor was also a fan of naps, with a twist: He'd sit up holding a handful of marbles and think about the problem he was working on until he fell asleep. When the marbles dropping to the floor woke him up, he wrote down whatever came into his mind, regardless of whether it offered a solution.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The German poet kept a rotten apple on his desk, insisting
that it helped him write more effectively.

• Charles Dickens. The British novelist would write only at a desk facing due north.



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